

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (USDOE) FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND ENTER INTO SEPARATE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION; NATIONAL LITERACY PROJECT FOR IMPLEMENTING LITERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM, NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORY (NWREL); AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested to accept a grant award from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) in the amount of \$9,157,115, to fund the Smaller Learning Communities Program for the grant period of October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2011. The USDOE issued a Request for Proposals under the Smaller Learning Communities Program (SLC) for the purpose of providing federal financial assistance to encourage large high schools to undertake the planning, implementation, and expansion of smaller learning communities through research-based restructuring. Such strategies include establishing small learning clusters and career academies with emphasis on the implementation of grade nine transition activities, adult advocate/advisory systems, and high academic standards for all students. The grant will be managed by Specialized Programs – Schools of Choice and supports the Superintendent’s secondary school reform initiative.

The following schools were targeted for this program because they met all federal requirements, including documented need for assistance relative to student performance, diversity/achievement gaps, graduation rates, school safety concerns, and successful transition to post-high school training and/or careers. The ten senior high schools identified in the SLC grant are:

Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School	North Miami Senior High School
Miami Carol City Senior High School	South Dade Senior High School
Miami Edison Senior High School	South Miami Senior High School
Miami Norland Senior High School	Southwest Miami Senior High School
Miami Northwestern Senior High School	William H. Turner Technical Arts High School

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Successful transformation of the ten schools will be highly dependent on a total commitment, both internally (teachers, administrators, parents, and students) and externally (District, state, community), to the implementation of accelerated learning strategies and interventions that will help *all* students succeed in rigorous academic coursework.

Therefore, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) will partner with the National Academy Foundation (NAF), and the National Literacy Project (NLP), whose research-based, career academy frameworks and Improving High School Literacy Program (respectively) have proven track records, both locally and at the national level, in developing successful academy programs. As a condition of the SLC grant award, the NAF Center for School Design will identify and orient District and school-site teams and help the teams focus on the core areas of academy development articulated in the NAF Frameworks. M-DCPS will also partner with the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL) and the Southeastern Region for Vision of Education (SERVE), the USDOE designated providers for the implementation of the SLC Grant, to develop the grade nine advisory-transition model, provide technical assistance, and professional development training to the District and school teams.

As stipulated in the grant application and proposal, an evaluation must be conducted by an independent third party whose role in the project is limited to conducting the evaluation. As a condition of the SLC grant award, the University of Miami, School of Education, will provide an annual evaluation report for each of the five years of the project period of implementation.

Authorization is requested to enter into contractual agreements with the National Academy Foundation in the amount of \$100,000, annually for a period of five years; the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory in the amount of \$25,000, annually for a period of five years; National Literacy Project in the amount of \$25,000, for a period of one year; and the University of Miami in the amount of \$80,000, annually for a period of five years.

Official notification of this grant award was received on September 29, 2006. Reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective October 1, 2006.

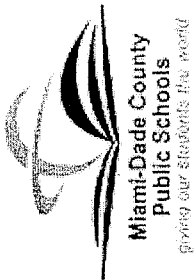
RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. accept a grant award from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) for funding under the Smaller Learning Communities Program in the amount of \$9,157,115 for the grant period of October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2011;
2. enter into separate contractual agreements, not to exceed the amount of \$950,000, for the grant period of September 1, 2006, through June 30, 2011, with:
 - a. National Academy Foundation in the amount of \$100,000 annually for a period of five years;
 - b. Northwestern Regional Educational Laboratory in the amount of \$25,000 annually for a period of five years;
 - c. National Literacy Project in the amount of \$25,000 for a period of one year; and
 - d. University of Miami in the amount of \$80,000 annually for a period of five years;
3. extend this grant and contractual agreements as authorized through official notification from the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the programs; and
4. direct Financial Operations to establish appropriations in the amounts approved or as amended by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

AMC:mgl

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



Yes No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?
 Entitlement Grant Non-Entitlement/Contract

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Smaller Learning Communities 2006-2011

Grant Period Beginning October 1, 2006 Ending September 30, 2011
 (Date) (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
INSTRUCTION SERVICES	5000							
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services	6100							
Instructional Media Services	6200							
Instruction & Curriculum Development	6300	7,709,085.00	2,807,721.00	1,700,000.00		1,161,401.00	125,000.00	1,167,502.00
Instructional Staff Training	6400	1,181,805.00	56,805.00	600,000.00				
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	266,225.00*						266,225.00*
School Administration	7300							
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	7400							
Fiscal Services	7500							
Food Services	7600							
Central Services	7700							
Transportation Services	7800							
Operation of Plant	7900							
Maintenance of Plant	8100							
Community Services	9100							
Debt	9200							
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	9,157,115.00	3,332,721.00	804,266.00	2,300,000.00		1,161,401.00	125,000.00	1,433,727.00

*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of 266,225

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Reviewed By 10/10/06 - sent to JM. pg
 Division of Budget 10/25/06 - re-sent to JM pg
 Agenda Item C-86 Board Meeting of November 21, 2006
 (Number) (Date)