

Ava G. Byrne, Deputy Superintendent
Professional Development

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL CHANGE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 FOR THE PERIOD OF NOVEMBER 22, 2006, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2006, TO DESIGN AND DEVELOP ONLINE LEARNING MODULES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STUDENT TEACHER SUPPORT TEAM MODEL (ST2) IN CRITICAL NEED SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with the Council for Educational Change to design and develop online learning modules that will support implementation of the Student Teacher Support Team Model (ST2) in 31 critical need schools. The modules will include online coursework, discussion boards and web based resources for school administrators, reading coaches, school psychologists and professional development specialists serving as site based team members in each ST2 school.

The ST2 model was previously approved by the School Board during the Board meeting held on February 16, 2005, (Board Item D-7). Funding to support implementation of the ST2 model, including the development of online learning modules, has been budgeted through a grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the Florida Department of Education, Project Number 130-2246A-6CD01, that was accepted by the Board during the meeting held on February 15, 2006, (Board Item C-81.)

The scope of the contracted work will include the development of four learning modules addressing core elements of the ST2 model: Response to Intervention, Assessment, Instruction and Intervention and Professional Development. The modules will allow participants to engage in interactive, self-guided learning units that address the utilization of data to establish instructional groups, identify academic goals for each student and assign appropriate interventions. The modules will also focus on the use of ongoing progress monitoring data to guide instruction and evaluate the effectiveness of selected interventions targeting identified learning deficiencies. To support implementation of the ST2 model as a professional development tool, the modules will also feature learning activities emphasizing the application of collaborative, team based problem solving skills to enhance instruction and improve student achievement.

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The Council for Educational Change has extensive experience in producing similar high quality online modules utilized by the Florida Department of Education for statewide programs in the areas of educational leadership and data analysis. Upon its completion of the contracted work, M-DCPS will retain ownership of the content of the modules. Participant access to the modules will be available through the district's website.

The anticipated cost for the contracted services will total \$50,000. The contract term will be effective for the period of November 22, 2006, through December 31, 2006. The proposed contract was presented to the Professional Services Contract Committee on November 2, 2006, and an exception was granted based on the specific expertise of the Council for Educational Change to provide the contracted services as delineated in School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F1.021.

The president of the Council for Educational Change is Dr. Elaine Liftin.

The appropriation for this item is included in Contracted Programs for 2006-2007 under Fund 0420, Object 5310, Location 9310, Program 4518, Function 6400.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. Authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contract in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 with the Council for Educational Change for the period of November 22, 2006, through December 31, 2006, to design and develop four online learning modules that will support implementation of the Student Teacher Support Team Model (ST2) in 31 critical need schools, and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F1.021 in light of the specific expertise of the Council for Educational Change to provide the contracted services.

The appropriation for this item is included in Contracted Programs for 2006-2007.

AGB:ay