

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR LAWRENCE ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF LAWRENCE ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As established in School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.47, Charter Schools (K-12), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has received charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations in the community.

On November 7, 2006, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Lawrence Academy Charter High School and by a unanimous vote made a recommendation for approval of the application to the Superintendent of Schools.

The charter school proposes to serve a maximum of 500 students in grades nine through twelve, with a maximum of 150 students in grades nine and ten in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2007-2008 school year, and continuing throughout the term of the contract which ends on June 30, 2017, and concludes in the 2016-2017 school year.

The following is the Founding Board for the charter school: Dr. Ralph Lewis, Educator, Ms. Lynda Raheem, Marketing Executive, Ms. Sofia Santiesteban, Educator, Mrs. Althea King, Educator, Dr. Dwight Witty, Educator, Dr. Keitha Burnett, Educator, and Mr. Michael Burnett, Public Administrator.

The charter school contractual agreement will be submitted for School Board consideration at a subsequent meeting at which time there will be a public hearing to provide for community input.

Copies of the application are available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

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

1. approve the charter school application for Lawrence Academy, Inc., on behalf of Lawrence Academy Charter High School; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2007-2008 school year and continuing throughout the term of the contract, which ends on June 30, 2017, and concludes in the 2016-2017 school year, which reflects the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.

LCR/MB/EOW:elg