

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT:       REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS FOR THE 2007 PASSPORT TO REAL WORLD  
CONNECTIONS**

**COMMITTEE:   INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN:   IMPROVE AND EXPAND CURRENT CURRICULUM**

The goal of this year's *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* is to support the District's instructional initiatives to ensure achievement of high academic standards by all students and develop our students so that they are able to successfully compete in the global economy. Key program strategies will be to improve and expand the current curriculum through the Enhanced Summer School initiative as delineated in the *2005-2008 District Strategic Plan*.

The expanded *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* will offer 83 outreach programs, an increase of 20 programs over last year. Many of these new programs focus on increasing student performance in the area of science. In addition, the Demonstration School Project will continue to focus on providing high quality learning experiences through the implementation of best practices in teaching. Six designated demonstration schools will utilize a variety of research-based instructional programs, strategies, and support services to promote reculturing practices in teaching to maximize student performance.

Partnerships will be established with museums, environmental centers, municipalities, colleges, universities, organizations, and businesses to promote intervention, enrichment, and enhancement activities that improve literacy skills, application of mathematics and science skills, and expose students to authentic environments. In addition, selected high school students participate in career-related internships in educational, industry, and community settings. In all, *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* summer program will afford students opportunities to experience academic and personal success.

Through the theme, *Preparing Students to Compete in a Global Society*, curriculum will focus on:

- elementary literacy skills reinforcing the attainment of proficiency in reading and writing, problem-solving, and opportunities for acceleration;

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- recovery, transition, graduation, and preparation for the global workforce for secondary students, including credit through adult education courses; and
- acceleration and enrichment activities that emphasize real-world applications while promoting exploration of the arts and world languages at all levels.

Authorization is requested to implement mandated federal and state educational programs, and prioritized services for eligible students, including demonstration schools, transition programs, outreach programs, internships, municipal partnerships, and academic and alternative programming, as well as professional development for teachers and paraprofessionals.

Federal law and state statute require the continuous provision of educational programs for eligible students. These mandated educational programs are:

- Extended School Year (ESY) services for students with disabilities ages 3-21 years, whose individual educational plan designates ESY services (IDEA, Section 614) and in compliance with the Florida State Board of Education Rules, Rule 6A-6.03028;
- summer reading camps for retained grade 3 students, Florida Statutes, Section 1008.25 (5)(b) and (7)(a); and
- the June (summer) administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for eligible grade 11 and 12 students, Florida Statutes, Section 1003.43 (11)(b).

### **2007 PASSPORT TO REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS SCHEDULE**

The *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* will operate 20 instructional days for elementary, middle, and senior high schools, from June 26, 2007, through July 24, 2007. A non-paid recess is scheduled for July 4, 2007, for ten-month employees who are employed during the summer.

The elementary instructional day for students at the selected summer school sites is 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., with early dismissal at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The secondary instructional day for students at the selected summer school sites are:

- middle school: 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., including lunch; and
- senior high school: 7:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. for students; the lunch period will be at the conclusion of the academic day.

The schedule includes two Professional Development Days (Friday, June 22, 2007, and Monday, June 25, 2007) for eligible teachers and Special Education (SPED) paraprofessionals, based on their regular school year job assignment as of June 1, 2007, for all schools with the exception of June 5, 2007, for School Improvement Zone schools.

## **2007 PASSPORT TO REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory for all grade 3 retained students at selected elementary open summer centers. In order to remain enrolled in the summer services program or to receive academic course credit (secondary students), students must not exceed two excused absences.

Parents/guardians electing not to comply with the mandatory attendance requirement forfeit the opportunity for summer services for their children. In order to maximize opportunities for parental/guardian awareness of instructional benefits and to encourage attendance, the District will conduct an informational media campaign.

## **2007 PASSPORT TO REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS EVALUATION**

The Office of Program Evaluation will arrange for or conduct an evaluation of selected elements of the *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* including:

- Third Grade Summer Reading Camp;
- Demonstration School Project;
- Thirteenth Year Prep; and
- PSAT Prep Course.

## **2007 PASSPORT TO REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS ESTIMATED COST/FUNDING**

The total estimated cost to the General Fund spanning two Fiscal Years (2006-2007 and 2007-2008), for the *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* (inclusive of Supplemental Academic Instruction and Summer Reading funds) will be \$30 million to provide federal and state mandated services, district prioritized services for eligible students, and professional development for eligible teachers and paraprofessionals. Additional funding from Workforce Development will be provided to serve high school students with completion opportunities through adult education. Funding estimates will provide summer services for approximately 62,000 students at approximately 123 sites.

Supporting documentation will be transmitted to the School Board as follows:

- The *2007 Passport to Real World Connections Supplemental Document* will be transmitted prior to the February 14, 2007, School Board Meeting;
- Supplemental information regarding budget details will be transmitted by the Office of Budget Management to School Board members under separate cover prior to the February 14, 2007, School Board Meeting; and
- The *2007 Passport to Real World Connections Implementation Document*, including the list of open summer centers, implementation procedures, program information, and eligibility criteria will be provided to the School Board under separate cover by March 15, 2007.

Additionally, copies will be placed in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center.

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

1. implementation of educational and support programs for all eligible elementary and secondary students, for the *2007 Passport to Real Connections*, June 2007, through August 2007, as delineated in the Board Item and supplemental documents; and make necessary adjustments pending action by the Florida Legislature;
2. Superintendent to enter into contractual and cooperative agreements with colleges, universities, municipalities, community-based agencies, and businesses to deliver summer school services, as delineated in the *2007 Passport to Real World Connections Supplemental Document*; and
3. approval of the *2007 Passport to Real World Connections* summer program budget summary of \$30 million covering the period of June – July 2007, thereby authorizing Financial Operations to establish appropriations, not to exceed \$30 million in the General Fund inclusive of Supplemental Academic Instruction and Summer Reading Funds.

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