

October 3, 2007

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL, INC., ON BEHALF OF RENAISSANCE ACADEMY OF SOUTH DADE

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement between the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

On December 13, 2006, the School Board approved a charter school application submitted for Renaissance Academy of South Dade and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten years.

The school will be located at the corner of SW 172 Avenue and 288 Street, Homestead, Florida 33030. The charter school will serve a maximum of 1,800 students in grades kindergarten through eight, with a maximum of 1,800 students in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year, and continuing throughout the term of the contract which ends on June 30, 2018, and concludes in the 2017-2018 school year.

The following is the Governing Board for the charter school: Mr. Ken Haiko, Business Executive; Mr. Shane Strum, Business Executive; Mr. Dennis P. Clark, Banker; Mr. Thomas P. Wheeler, Attorney, and Ms. Laura R. Seidman, Attorney.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) reviewed the proposed contractual agreement on September 6, 2007. The CRC did not accept three changes to the standard contractual agreement proposed by the applicant. The Committee unanimously approved the charter school contractual agreement without the terms desired by the applicant.

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Additional negotiations occurred on October 1, 2007, between the applicant's general counsel and staff from the School Board Attorney's Office and Specialized Programs, resulting in terms in the contract that satisfy the District's interests and are agreeable to applicant.

Copies of the charter school contractual agreement will be transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be 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.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, grant approval of the charter school contractual agreement with Renaissance Charter School, Inc., on behalf of Renaissance Academy of South Dade for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year and throughout the term of the contract, which expires on June 30, 2018, and concludes in the 2017-2018 school year.

LCR/MB/EOW:elg