

October 3, 2007

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (USDOE) FOR FUNDING UNDER THE VOLUNTARY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF GRANT DOLLARS

Authorization is requested to accept a grant award from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) in the approximate amount of \$12,536,815, to fund the Voluntary Public School Choice (VPSC) Program at Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for the grant period of August 1, 2007, through July 31, 2012. The VPSC grant will support the District's efforts to significantly expand the availability of high quality school options for parents and students. The grant will be managed by Curriculum and Instruction, Specialized Programs, and supports the District's goal to increase parental choice options.

Funds received through the new VPSC grant will assist the District to continue the trend that was initiated in the 2002-2007 grant program cycle, replicate successful choice models and school theme enhancements, increase parental awareness and participation through an aggressive Districtwide marketing campaign, and implement an intensive professional development program of best practices in leadership, teaching, utilization of data, and strategies to improve student achievement. Additionally, in compliance with USDOE grant guidelines, M-DCPS will use funds to provide a portion of the cost of transportation to and from public elementary schools and secondary schools for participating students to ensure all students have equitable opportunity for access to public school choice programs.

In accordance with the terms of the grant application, separate contractual agreements will be negotiated with institutions of higher education, educational associations, and consultants. The providers and their specified services have been delineated in the grant proposal as resources; contracts will be negotiated to align with services identified at the selected school sites.

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Grants funds in the amount of \$12,536,815, will be used to fund the full-time salaries of the project director, District support staff members, and lead teachers; training stipends for school staff; contracted services for an annual evaluation of the grant program; transportation costs; travel and registration fees for school site personnel and grant supported staff to attend conferences and workshops; marketing and recruitment materials and activities; supplies and equipment for operating the programs; as well as professional and technical services fees for consultants.

Official notification of this grant award was received on July 27, 2007 and reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective August 1, 2007.

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 Voluntary Public School Choice Program in the approximate amount of \$12,536,815, for the grant period of August 1, 2007, through July 31, 2012;
2. retain funds from the grant in an amount not to exceed the annually negotiated indirect cost rate, as allowed and approved by the FLDOE;
3. extend this program as authorized through official notification from the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the program; 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/MB/HB/LL:sc

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



Yes No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Voluntary Public School Choice Program - I Choose

Entitlement Grant Non-Entitlement/Contract

Grant Period Beginning August 1, 2007 (Date) Ending July 31, 2012 (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	11,893,552.00	1,338,347.00	5,585,000.00		262,968.00	195,711.00	
Instructional Staff Training	6400	260,640.00	221,640.00	39,000.00				
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	382,621.00*						382,621.00*
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	12,536,813.00	4,733,166.00	1,338,347.00	5,624,000.00		262,968.00	195,711.00	382,621.00

*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of \$382,621.00

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Reviewed By *Ernesto Aranda de la Cruz* Board Meeting of October 17, 2007 (Date)
 Division of Budget Agenda Item C-89 (Number)

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