

Freddie Woodson, Associate Superintendent
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT FROM THE FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION, KELLY TRACTOR COMPANY AND CATERPILLAR, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$230,000

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE AND EXPAND CURRENT ADULT/VOCATIONAL AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Florida Transportation Builders' Association has been awarded \$100,000 in grant funds from the South Florida Water Management District to establish a career technical education training program to support the Everglades Restoration Project. The funds were dedicated for purchasing used heavy equipment to promote the implementation of a recently developed Heavy Duty Equipment Operator postsecondary training program.

Instead of purchasing used heavy equipment, Kelly Tractor Company, a long-term Miami-Dade County Public Schools industry partner, in conjunction with Caterpillar, Inc., will donate, in addition to the \$100,000 donated by the Florida Transportation Builders' Association, approximately \$130,000 to supplement the difference in cost for purchasing new pieces of equipment. The Heavy Equipment Operator training program is scheduled to begin in January 2008, at Miami Lakes Educational Center.

The donation is to be utilized for training future heavy equipment operators. The operating budget is contained in the 2007-2008 Workforce Development budget.

The president of the Florida Transportation Builders' Association is Mr. Bob Burleson, the president of Kelly Tractor Company is Mr. Patrick Kelly and the Chairman and CEO of Caterpillar, Inc. is Mr. James Owens.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to accept a donation of heavy equipment from the Florida Transportation Builders' Association, Kelly Tractor Company and Caterpillar, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$230,000, to be utilized for training future heavy equipment operators.

There will be no additional cost to the District.

FW/RG:mj

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