

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

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

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

As established in School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.471, 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 9, 2007, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Somerset Academy (Homestead) 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 750 students in grades kindergarten through five 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.

Following is the Governing Board for the charter school: Mr. Victor Barroso, Account Executive, El Sembrador; Ms. Kim M. Guilarte, Principal, Mater Academy Charter School; Dr. Hui Fang Huang (Angie) Su, Professor, Nova Southeastern University; Ms. Alejandra Salima Jacquinet, Lead Teacher, Mater Academy Charter School; Mr. Carlos Resendez, Fire Retiree Representative, San Antonio Fire and Police Pension Fund; Ms. Cynthia Hanson, Vice President of Marketing & External Relations, Brooks City-Base; and Mr. Louis J. Marin, Director of Project Management, San Antonio City Employees Federal Credit Union.

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.

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Copies of the application 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:

1. approve the application for Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy (Homestead); and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of ten years, 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, which reflects the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.

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