

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR THE CUBAN NATIONAL COUNCIL, INC., ON BEHALF OF ALPHA CHARTER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL OF LITTLE HAVANA, 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 27, 2007, M-DCPS Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for ALPHA Charter Academy High School of Little Havana 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 200 students in grades nine through twelve 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 Founding Board for the charter school: Mr. Guarione M. Diaz, President and CEO, Cuban American National Council; Ms. Isabel Navas, Principal and Vice President for Educational Programs, Cuban American National Council; Dr. Celia Suarez, Educator; and Ms. Raquel Switzer, Certified Public Accountant, Switzer & Switzer.

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 the Cuban National Council, Inc., on behalf of ALPHA Charter Academy High School of Little Havana; 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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