

Business Operations
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE
SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL
AGREEMENT WITH CONSULTANTS FOR EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION, INC.**

COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY

LINK TO DISTRICT: IMPROVE FINANCIAL SERVICES

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with Consultants for Excellence in Education, Inc., to provide professional and technical consulting services in the area of human resources, including but not limited to the areas of labor relations and collective bargaining, and other special projects, as assigned by the Superintendent of Schools. The term of the contract will run from February 1, 2008 through November 30, 2008, with total professional fees to be in the amount of \$125,000, with an option to extend for one additional ten (10) month contract period, at the same terms and conditions. Additionally, the contract provides for an option, if required, for compensation for additional on-site visits, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000. This professional fee would cover travel and other related expenses.

Mr. Howard S. Tames, the founder and president of Consultants for Excellence in Education, Inc., continues to be involved in contract negotiations with all labor unions as well as helping to resolve all issues in the area of labor relations.

This item was approved by the Professional Services Contract Committee on Thursday, December 13, 2007. The recommended exception to the School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021, Professional Services Contracts, regarding bids or Requests For Proposals is to be granted based on Mr. Tames' specific expertise and experience with M-DCPS specific systems, structure and issues, as described above.

The appropriation for the item is included in the 2007-2008 adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Object 5310, Location 9022, Program 7920, and Function 7730.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. authorize the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a contractual agreement with Consultants for Excellence in Education, Inc., to provide professional and technical consulting services for human resources, collective bargaining, and other related projects, as assigned by the Superintendent of Schools, effective February 1, 2008 through November 30, 2008, with consulting fees in the amount of \$125,000, with an option to extend for one additional ten (10) month contract period at the same terms and conditions. Additionally, authorize contracting, if required, for additional on-site visits, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000. This professional fee would cover travel and other related expenses; and
2. grant an exception to the School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, based on specific expertise.

OSP:cpi