

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF SOMERSET ACADEMY (SILVER PALMS)**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS**

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, states that a charter school contractual agreement may be modified during its initial term or any renewal term upon the recommendation of the sponsor and the approval of both parties to the agreement.

The initial charter school contractual agreement for Somerset Academy (Silver Palms) was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, on June 14, 2006, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2007-2008 school year, and concludes in the 2016-2017 school year.

Somerset Academy (Silver Palms) is located at 11400 SW 232 Street, Homestead, Florida 33032, and serves approximately 738 students in grades kindergarten through eight. Somerset Academy (Silver Palms) has requested a first amendment to the charter school contractual agreement to increase the enrollment capacity from a maximum of 600 students to a maximum of 1,100 students, effective for the 2007-2008 school year and throughout the term of the contract which expires on June 30, 2017, and concludes in the 2016-2017 school year.

The charter school is in its first year of operation; therefore, it has not yet received a grade under Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability and has not yet been audited. The School is scheduled for its first audit after the conclusion of this school year. The school is required to submit audited financial statements by September 1, 2008, in preparation of its first independent audit.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) reviewed the proposed contractual amendment on January 9, 2008, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the first amendment to the charter school contractual agreement with Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy (Silver Palms).

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Copies of the charter school contractual agreement 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, grant approval of the first amendment to the charter school contractual agreement with Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy (Silver Palms), effective for the 2007-2008 school year and throughout the term of the contract, which expires on June 30, 2017, and concludes in the 2016-2017 school year.

LCR/MB/EOW:elg