

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH RISE SCHOOLS, INC., ON BEHALF OF RISE ACADEMY – SOUTH DADE CHARTER SCHOOL**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS**

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement, between the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

On December 19, 2007, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approved a charter school application submitted for Rise Academy – South Dade Charter School (Rise Academy) and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten years.

Rise Academy will be located at 103 East Lucy Street, Florida City, Florida, 33034 and will serve a maximum of 900 students in kindergarten through grade eight. However, in its first year of operation, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year, Rise Academy will serve a maximum of 400 students. The term of the contract shall be for ten years, ending on June 30, 2018.

The Governing Board of the charter school is comprised of the following members: Ms. Adrienne Grudzien, Insurance Specialist, AvMed Insurance; Dr. Billy Jones, Dean of College Preparatory Department, Miami-Dade College; Mr. John Lonardo, Commercial Real Estate Broker, Kerdyk Real Estate; Mr. Jeff Meran, Attorney and Real Estate Developer; and Ms. Gemma Torcivia, Fellow, Building Excellent Schools.

The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on March 17, 2008, and by a unanimous vote made a recommendation for approval of the charter school contractual agreement with Rise Schools, Inc., on behalf of Rise Academy – South Dade Charter School.

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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, approve the charter school contractual agreement with Rise Schools, Inc., on behalf of Rise Academy – South Dade Charter School for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.

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