

School Police and District Security  
Gerald L. Darling, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING, INC. FOR EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION YOUTHFUL OFFENDER-REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP GRANT FOR RESEARCH EVALUATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD FROM JUNE 1, 2008 THROUGH MAY 31, 2009**

**COMMITTEE:       SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY**

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF GRANT DOLLARS .**

During the Board Meeting of February 13, 2008, authorization was given to accept the award in the approximate amount of \$2,000,000, from the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), Employment and Training Administration, to fund expansion of the Miami Partnership for Action in Communities Taskforce (MPACT) under the Youthful Offender-Registered Apprenticeship, Alternative Education and Replication Program, for the grant period of December 1, 2007 through May 31, 2009. The purpose of the USDOL grant funding is to replicate or expand effective programs around the country that serve juvenile offenders. MPACT is one of six grantees nationally under the highly competitive program, which represents a new funding source for the District. The Board Item C-80 was intended to expand MPACT which focuses on education, community involvement, mentoring, social intervention, personal and social responsibility, as well as job skills development. MPACT is managed by the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department and supports the Superintendent's initiative to increase academic performance for all students.

The USDOL grant supports a six-month planning period and one year implementation for MPACT program expansion from seven schools to 13 additional schools. The schools were identified based on the schools' dropout rates, as well as poverty, unemployment, and crime statistics of the surrounding neighborhoods.

The participating schools are: Miami Norland Senior, North Miami Beach Senior, North Miami Senior, Miami Central Senior, Miami Northwestern Senior, Miami Edison Senior, Miami Jackson Senior, Booker T. Washington Senior, Miami Edison Middle, Miami Killian Senior, Miami Southridge Senior, Douglas MacArthur-South, and Homestead Senior.

At the February 13, 2008 School Board Meeting, Agenda Item C-80 was approved; this item authorized the acceptance of a grant award, in the amount of \$2,000,000, from the USDOL for MPACT for the term of December 1, 2007 to May 31, 2009.

The Program MPACT includes the following five key elements:

1. Mobilizing the Community: bringing together law enforcement, schools community organizations, citizens and youth.
2. Intervening with At-Risk Youth: including in-school and after-school programming, mentoring, individual and family counseling, life skills training, and outreach to youth displaying high risk behavior.
3. Providing Career Path Opportunities: offering education, vocational training, job training placement, and job placement services.
4. Suppressing Criminal Activity: collaborating with community agencies for targeted police support operations.
5. Improving Organizational Structure: sharing information, enhancing case management, establishing multi-disciplinary coordination, and training among community partner agencies.

The Professional Services Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021 reviewed this contractual agreement on May 1, 2008, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Requests for Proposals be granted by the Committee because the contractor provides specific expertise in providing research and evaluation for educational programs and their effectiveness within the learning environment.

Authorization is being requested to enter into a contractual agreement with Counseling and Educational Consulting, Inc., in the amount of \$50,000. Services will include preparation of evaluation measurement instruments, data collection, analyses and reporting.

The grant was applied for in May 2007 and the services of Counseling and Educational Consulting, Inc. were included in the approved grant proposal budget narrative.

The President and Founder of Counseling and Educational Consulting, Inc. is James Pann, Ph.D. The organization was commissioned by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to serve as research partners for the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department/ MPACT, previously "Gang-Free Schools and Communities National Demonstration Model."

Fund Source

The appropriation for the USDOL is through a grant for \$2,000,000 and the appropriation. There are no matching District funds required or any District contributions necessary for this item.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorizes the Superintendent to:

1. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 based on specific expertise;
2. enter into a contractual agreement with Counseling and Educational Consulting, Inc., in the amount of \$50,000 for preparation of evaluation methodology, design of an evaluation instrument, program evaluation, data collection, analyses and reporting. In addition, Counseling and Educational Consulting, Inc. will provide assistance in quarterly reporting and the final reporting to the DOL and the District on the programmatic outcomes as it relates to the scope of work and goals and objectives as outlined in the funded grant proposal for the period of June 1, 2008, through May 31, 2009; and
3. extend and amend the amount of the contractual agreement as authorized through official notification from the granting agencies in order to complete the goals of the program in the event that a no cost extension is granted by the grantee.