

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH MATER ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF MATER ACADEMY LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, stipulates 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 Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Lakes Middle School (Mater Lakes Middle) was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida (The School Board), on June 14, 2006, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2006-2007 school year. Due to facility problems encountered by the charter school, actions were taken by The School Board to allow Mater Lakes Middle to operate in multiple temporary facilities until such time that the permanent location was available.

Mater Lakes Middle has requested a second amendment to consolidate the temporary facilities and site the charter school permanently at 17300 NW 87 Avenue, Hialeah, Florida, 33015, during the 2008-2009 school year and throughout the term of the contract ending on June 30, 2016. It is anticipated that construction of the new permanent facility will not be completed by the opening of school in August 2008; therefore, the charter school will continue operation at its temporary facilities until such time that the permanent facility is available. Mater Lakes Middle currently serves approximately 260 students in grades six through eight.

Mater Lakes Middle is eligible to be graded under Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability. For the 2006-2007 school year, Mater Lakes Middle did not meet Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) and received a school grade of "C". Mater Lakes Middle's audited financial statements revealed no inaccuracies, shortages, defalcations, fraud and/or violations of laws, rules, regulations and contractual provisions.

On May 22, 2008, the Contract Review Committee (CRC) met, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the second amendment to the charter school contractual agreement with Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Lakes Middle School.

Copies of the amendment to 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 second amendment to the contract with Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy Lakes Middle School, to relocate to a permanent facility located at 17300 NW 87 Avenue, Hialeah, Florida, 33015, during the 2008-2009 school year and ending on June 30, 2016.

LCR/MB/EOW/TP:elg