

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants, Marketing, and Community Services

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH STATE-APPROVED SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (SES) PROVIDERS SUBJECT TO THEIR SELECTION BY PARENTS OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE DELIVERY OF SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (SES)

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), students eligible for free or reduced price meals, who are attending Title I schools that have not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three consecutive years, are eligible to receive Supplemental Educational Services (SES). In order to be in compliance with NCLB and in accordance with Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) SES guidelines, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) must enter into a contractual agreement with state-approved SES providers subject to their selection by parents of eligible children. Authorization is hereby requested to negotiate and enter into separate contractual agreements with each State-approved SES provider subject to their selection by the parent of an eligible student in an amount not to exceed a per student cost equal to the annual cost per pupil for Supplemental Educational Services as defined by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) and authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB).

The Board's approval authorizing the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into separate contractual agreements with each SES provider does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of the provider or its services. It merely satisfies the Board's requirement under NCLB, and pursuant to section 1008.331, F.S., Supplemental Educational Services in Title I Schools; School District and Provider Responsibilities; and Fla. Administrative Code R. 6A-1.039, Supplemental Educational Services in Title I Schools.

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The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) required that all providers authorized to deliver SES for 2007-2008 update their application for the 2008-2009 school year. The FLDOE is also in the process of approving additional providers for the 2008-2009 school year. Six (6) M-DCPS schools, i.e., Fulford, L.C. Evans, Twin Lakes, Leewood, Fairlawn Elementary Schools and Winston Park K-8 Center, submitted applications to become SES providers for the 2008-2009 school year. Once a provider is on the state-approved list, the District cannot require an additional application and approval process for the provider to deliver services if selected by a parent of an eligible student, except the requirement to abide by applicable health, safety, and civil rights laws.

In conducting its approval process, the FLDOE was required to ensure that each provider: (1) has a demonstrated record of effectiveness in improving student academic achievement; (2) uses instructional strategies that are high quality, based upon research, and designed to increase student academic achievement; (3) provides services that are consistent with the instructional program of M-DCPS and with state academic content and achievement standards; (4) is financially sound; and (5) will provide supplemental educational services consistent with applicable federal, state, and local health, safety, and civil rights laws.

Supplemental Educational Services are funded through the 20% set-aside for the implementation of NCLB Choice Options (Public School Transfers and SES) from the Title I allocation as required under NCLB. An amount of \$25,557,908 is set-aside for this purpose. The FLDOE has tentatively established the maximum cost per pupil for SES at \$1,425 for M-DCPS for the 2008-2009 school year. The cost per pupil for the 2007-2008 school year was \$1,466. The cost per pupil represents the maximum per student that will be paid to any state-approved provider in connection with the provision of SES in Miami-Dade County. Students from 134 eligible Title I schools received SES during the 2007-2008 school year. It is anticipated that based on current AYP criteria, a similar number of Title I schools will be eligible to receive SES during the 2008-2009 school year.

In accordance with the requirements of NCLB, the District will provide parents of children in eligible Title I schools with information in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole related to the availability of SES. Provider fairs will be conducted throughout the District to ensure ample opportunities for parents to select this option. Information about the provider fairs and SES enrollment deadlines will be provided to parents via fliers and letters. Posters in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole will be displayed at each eligible Title I school.

Each contractual agreement is for a one-year term with two, one-year renewal options to correspond with the terms of state approval, at the mutual discretion of the parties. In addition, the contractual agreement provides for the maintenance of student and fiscal records in accordance with Florida Statutes and Board Rule; the fingerprinting and drug screening of providers' employees conducted by the District, at the cost of the provider; and for termination of the contract should the provider fail to perform under the terms of the contract, cessation of federal funding, or the provider no longer appears on the FLDOE approval list. A copy of the proposed contract will be placed on file in the Citizens Information Center.

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

1. negotiate and enter into separate contractual agreements with each State-approved SES provider subject to their selection by the parent of an eligible student in an amount not to exceed a per student cost equal to the annual cost per pupil for Supplemental Educational Services as defined by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) and authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), for a contract period of July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, and report to the Board those providers that the District contracted with; and
2. renew these contractual agreements annually, for up to two additional years, consistent with the terms of the contracts and the requirements of NCLB.

AMC/MCA:bmm