

Business Operations  
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DONATE A SURPLUS SCHOOL BUS TO THE COUNTRY OF HAITI IN ITS HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORT**

**COMMITTEE:               INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN:   EVALUATE AND REDESIGN INTERNAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

At the Special School Board Meeting of September 17, 2008, Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway, Member proffered and the Board approved a Board Agenda Item SP-3 requesting approval of Resolution No. 08-87 to endorse participation of Miami-Dade County Public Schools in a drive to collect clothing and non-perishable foods to assist in relief efforts for areas affected by the Hurricane Season. On September 16, 2008, a weekly briefing was sent to all schools requesting donations for the devastated families and displaced communities in Haiti. Subsequently, Miami-Dade County Public Schools collected five truckloads of donations and they continue to receive more. The food and supplies have been sent to 135 youth leaders in Haiti, who will distribute the material and provide trauma relief through the Art of Living's Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP).

The Country of Haiti has formally requested the donation of a surplus bus that is needed in the relief effort as a result of the Hurricanes that have devastated the Country. This bus will be used in the humanitarian relief efforts to transport personnel and supplies to aid Haitian citizens in the wake of Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Pursuant to Florida Statute §274.05, "A governmental unit shall have discretion to classify as surplus any of its property, which property is not otherwise lawfully disposed of, that is obsolete or the continued use of which is uneconomical or inefficient, or which serves no useful function." The statute further adds that "Within the reasonable exercise of its discretion and having consideration for the best interests of the county or district, the value and condition of property classified as surplus, and the probability of such property being desired by the prospective bidder or donee to whom offered, the governmental unit may offer surplus property to other governmental units in the county or district for sale or donation or may offer the property to private, nonprofit agencies as defined in Florida Statute §273.01(3)."

School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3B-1.09 – Disposal of Tangible Personal Property, stipulates in part that "for purposes of this rule, tangible personal property means fixtures and other tangible personal property of a non consumable nature, the value of which is \$1,000 or more, and the normal expected life of which is one year or more. The Board has the authority to declare tangible personal property as surplus if it is obsolete, if continued use is uneconomical or inefficient, or if it serves no useful function." The rule further adds that "the disposal of property with a value of \$1,000 or more, or any property included in a bid, auction, or donation, shall be approved by and recorded in the minutes of the Board."

**RECOMMENDED:**   That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, declare a school bus as surplus property, and authorize the Superintendent to donate this bus to the Country of Haiti, in its humanitarian relief efforts.