

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent  
School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR EXCELSIOR ACADEMIES, INC., ON BEHALF OF EXCELSIOR ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL, AND AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A TERM OF TEN YEARS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

As established in School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.471, Charter Schools (K-12), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has received charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations in the community.

On October 7, 2008, M-DCPS' Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Excelsior Academy High School and, by a majority vote, made a recommendation for approval of the application to the Superintendent of Schools.

The charter school proposes to serve a maximum of 600 students in grades nine through twelve, with a Spanish language immersion curriculum, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing throughout the term of the contract, which ends on June 30, 2019, and concludes in the 2018-2019 school year.

Following is the existing Governing Board for the charter school: Ms. Kathleen Casey Swanson, Paralegal, White Hat Management; Ms. Claudia E. Trilles, Director, Kids Corner, LLC; and Ms. Yoselin Guerra, Teacher, North Hialeah Elementary. This is the same governing board for Excelsior Language Academy of Hialeah (K-8), which is currently in operation.

The charter school contractual agreement will be submitted for School Board consideration at a subsequent meeting at which time there will be a public hearing to provide for community input.

Copies of the application 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:

1. approve the application for Excelsior Academies, Inc., on behalf of Excelsior Academy High School; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing throughout the term of the contract, which ends on June 30, 2019, and concludes in the 2018-2019 school year, which reflects the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.

MB/EOW/TP:elg