

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent  
School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, INC., ON BEHALF OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES CHARTER MIDDLE 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 24, 2008, M-DCPS' Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for International Studies Charter Middle School and, by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the application to the Superintendent of Schools.

The charter school proposes to serve a maximum of 450 students in grades six through eight through a bilingual and multicultural academic program focusing on studies in French, Italian and Spanish, 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: Mr. Jean-Michel Caffin, International Business Executive, International Trade Division of Bureau Veritas Group (Aeronautics & Space Division); Mr. Jose Antonio Fernandez Lopez, Administrator, Spanish Ministry of Education; Mr. Francisco Javier Usero Vilchez, Educator, Andalusian State Educational Administration; Ms. Patrizia Coco, Educator, Cypress Bay High School; Mr. Giampiero de Persia, Entrepreneur, Poltrona Frau; and Ms. Miriam Rodriguez, Parent Representative. This is the same governing board for International Studies Charter High School, 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 International Studies Charter High School, Inc., on behalf of International Studies Charter Middle 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