

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent  
School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF MIAMI, INC., ON BEHALF OF MIAMI ADVANTAGE ACADEMY, AND AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR A TERM OF FIVE 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 30, 2008, M-DCPS' Charter School District Review Committee met to review the application for Miami Advantage Academy (Miami Advantage) 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 990 students in kindergarten through grade eight through an academic program focusing on mathematics and science, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing throughout the term of the contract, which ends on June 30, 2014, and concludes in the 2013-2014 school year.

Following is the Founding Board for the charter school: Mr. Nathaniel Grsch, Construction Finance Specialist, JP Morgan Chase Bank, NA; Ms. Bassema Iskandarani, Vice President and Banking Center Manager, Bank of America, NA; and Ms. Helena del Monte, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Association for the Development of the Exceptional, Inc.

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 Advantage Academy of Miami, Inc., on behalf of Miami Advantage Academy; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement for a term of five years, commencing with the 2009-2010 school year and continuing throughout the term of the contract, which ends on June 30, 2014, and concludes in the 2013-2014 school year, which reflects the contents of the application as approved by the School Board.

MB/EOW/TP:elg