

Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Assistant Superintendent
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A CONTINUATION
GRANT AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT
WITH PARAGON TEC, INC. TO FUND THE NASA SCIENCE,
ENGINEERING, MATHEMATICS, AND AEROSPACE ACADEMY
(SEMAA) PROJECT**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF GRANT DOLLARS

Authorization is requested to accept a continuation grant award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to fund the NASA Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) Project in the approximate amount of \$100,000, for the grant period of October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2010. The project supports the *National Action Plan for Addressing the Critical Needs of the United States Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Education System*. The grant, managed by Curriculum and Instruction, Division of Mathematics, Science, and Advanced Academic Programs, supports the national goal of establishing a kindergarten through college educational pipeline that addresses the need to prepare students to enter science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers.

The intent of NASA, the funding agency, is that the SEMAA Project functions within schools as an academy whose theme is Aerospace Science and targets schools in underserved and underrepresented populations within a feeder pattern building a K-20 pipeline. The SEMAA Project is designed to inspire career choices, engage students in active learning, and educate students and parents to be literate citizens in the areas of reading, social studies, and STEM, utilizing an interdisciplinary model that integrates NASA, business/industry, and higher education resources. This preparedness will lead to increased academic performance and self-esteem, healthy choices, improved college and career choices, and greater interest in school.

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No matching funds are required as a condition to receive the grant award. The grant funds cover salary and fringe benefits for a project director, hourly personnel to facilitate workshops, guest speaker presentations for parents and teachers, and arranges field trips; science materials and equipment; professional development; substitute teacher coverage; and mandatory travel to NASA-sponsored conferences.

The official notification of this grant award was received in March, 2009, which is after the start of the grant period. Reimbursements of grant-related expenditures are authorized effective October 1, 2008.

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

1. accept a continuation grant award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and enter into a contract with Paragon TEC, Inc. to fund the Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) Project in the total amount of \$100,000, for the grant period of October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2010;
2. retain funds from the grant in an amount not to exceed the annually negotiated indirect cost rate, as allowed and approved by the FLDOE;
3. extend this program as authorized through official notification from the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the program;
4. direct Financial Services to establish appropriations in the amounts approved or as amended by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board; and
5. authorize travel out-of-state as required by the grant parameters.

IRM-C:ms

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: National Aeronautics and Space Administration - Aerospace Academy

Yes No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?
 Entitlement Grant Non-Entitlement/Contract

Grant Period Beginning October 1, 2008 Ending September 30, 2010
 (Date) (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
INSTRUCTION SERVICES:								
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services	88,694.00	63,000.00	19,560.00			6,134.00		
Instructional Media Services								
Instruction & Curriculum Development								
Instructional Staff Training	2,000.00			2,000.00				
Board of Education								
General Administration	4,306.00*							4,306.00*
School Administration								
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction								
Fiscal Services								
Food Services								
Central Services								
Transportation Services	5,000.00			5,000.00				
Operation of Plant								
Maintenance of Plant								
Community Services								
Debt								
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	100,000.00	63,000.00	19,560.00	7,000.00		6,134.00		4,306.00

*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of \$4,306.00

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Reviewed By [Signature] Agenda Item C-80 Board Meeting of August 5, 2009
 Division of Budget (Number) (Date)