

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

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT  
AWARD FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION (FLDOE) THROUGH STATE  
STABILIZATION FUNDS UNDER THE AMERICAN  
RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT TO FUND THE  
LEARNING FOR LIFE CHARACTER EDUCATION  
PROGRAM AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL  
AGREEMENT WITH LEARNING FOR LIFE, INC.**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN:       IMPROVE RETURN OF INVESTMENT OF GRANT  
DOLLARS**

Authorization is requested to accept a non-competitive continuation grant award in the approximate amount of \$236,500, from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) through State Stabilization Funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and to enter into a contractual agreement with Learning for Life, Inc. in the same amount, to implement the Learning for Life character education program, for the grant period of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. Funding is authorized through State Specific Appropriation 95 from State Stabilization Funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The purpose of this program is to improve student life skills and student achievement, with a focus on reading, writing, critical thinking, and career preparation; to build student character, which includes the development of self-worth, self-confidence, motivation, and ethical decision-making skills; and to improve classroom behavior. The program is managed by the Division of Social Sciences and Life Skills, and supports the District's goal to ensure achievement of high academic standards by all students.

In 2008-2009, 49 schools participated in the Learning for Life program. Despite a 28.2 percent reduction in state funding for the 2009-2010 school year, 34 schools are projected to participate in this year's program. All elementary, middle, senior and alternative schools are eligible to participate. School site participation is voluntary.

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Priority is given to low-performing schools. Additional schools are selected based on percentages of students eligible for exceptional student education and free or reduced-price meal programs.

No matching funds are required as a condition to receive the grant award. Grant funds will be used for contracted services which cover salaries, fringe benefits, in-county travel, classroom supplies, program fees and activities, group liability insurance, and an external evaluator. Indirect costs are not allowed.

Official notification of this grant award is expected on or about November 1, 2009. Reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective July 1, 2009.

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

1. accept a grant award from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) through State Stabilization Funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to fund the Learning for Life character education program in the approximate amount of \$236,500, for the grant period of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010;
2. enter into a contractual agreement with Learning for Life, Inc., in the approximate amount of \$236,500, for the contract period of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010;
3. extend this program and contractual agreement as authorized through official notification from the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the program; and
4. direct Financial Services to establish appropriations in the amount approved or as amended by the granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to the Board.

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



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

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Learning for Life Character Education Program - ARRA  
 Grant Period Beginning July 1, 2009 Ending June 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	5000							
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services	6100							
Instructional Media Services	6200							
Instruction & Curriculum Development	6300							
Instructional Staff Training	6400							
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	*						
School Administration	7300							
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	7400							
Fiscal Services	7500							
Food Services	7600							
Central Services	7700							
Transportation Services	7800							
Operation of Plant	7900							
Maintenance of Plant	8100							
Community Services	9100			236,500.00				
Debt	9200							
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	236,500.00			236,500.00				

\*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of

Reviewed By W. Eugene Shady de Santos  
 Division of Budget

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Agenda Item C-80 Board Meeting of November 17, 2009  
 (Number) (Date)