

May 3, 2010

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

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT IN-KIND RESOURCES THROUGH THE TARGET SCHOOL LIBRARY MAKEOVER PROJECT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HEART OF AMERICA FOUNDATION TO RENOVATE AND FURNISH THE LIBRARY AT SILVER BLUFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Authorization is requested to accept in-kind resources valued at approximately \$50,000, through the Target School Library Makeover Project in collaboration with the Heart of America Foundation, to renovate and furnish the library at Silver Bluff Elementary School. Target has partnered with Heart of America (HOA) Foundation to makeover school libraries nationwide through its Target School Library Makeover Project. Founded in 1997, HOA has a mission to give children the tools they need to read, succeed, and make a difference. This program will be managed by Curriculum and Instruction, Library Media Services.

The Target School Library Makeover Project will transform the media center into a beautiful and engaging learning space, with new furniture, paint, artwork, carpet, and other exciting elements that will help create a wonderful space for the entire community to enjoy. The school will receive two thousand donated books to be included in the permanent library collection, as well as seven books per student to create or enhance each individual student's home library. Target and HOA completed a library makeover at Broadmoor Elementary School in September 2009.

In early March, HOA contacted the District and requested that applications be submitted later that month. In order to minimize distractions to schools while state assessments were in progress and to address the very short turnaround time, District staff in Library Media Services requested that HOA consider applications submitted for the previous Library Makeover. HOA selected Silver Bluff Elementary from the applicants. Schools

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had to meet the following criteria in order to be considered: sixty-five percent low-income students; more than 25% of students reading below grade level; ability to maintain access to the library for all students; and ability to sustain the new library.

Target and HOA will:

- conduct a thorough assessment of school library needs;
- provide options for design, materials, and furnishings recommended by professional library designer;
- host pre-service orientations for sponsoring organization(s) and/or community volunteer groups and introduce them to the school;
- locate materials and resources for student-designed elements;
- deliver materials two weeks or less prior to the day of makeover;
- alert the media to the Target School Library Makeover Project and day-of-makeover activities;
- provide all materials;
- provide professionals to supervise painting and carpentry;
- provide volunteers for cleaning, painting, assembling furniture, scanning and shelving books, setting up computers, creating bulletin boards, delivering new books to classrooms and other duties as required;
- provide photo/media releases for students, parents, school staff, and volunteers; and
- document the activities with photo/video.

The District will prepare an impact statement detailing how the Target School Library Makeover Project has affected the school and its students. There is no cost to the District.

RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent of Schools to accept in-kind resources valued at approximately \$50,000, through the Target School Library Makeover Project in collaboration with the Heart of America Foundation, to renovate and furnish the library at Silver Bluff Elementary School.

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