

Financial Services
Richard H. Hinds, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION – EDUCATION JOBS FUND PROGRAM

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY

The Education Jobs Fund program is authorized in Public Law No. 111-226 (ACT), which President Obama signed into law on August 10, 2010. The Education Jobs Fund program is a new Federal program that provides \$10 billion in assistance to the States to save or create education jobs for the FY2010-11 school year. Jobs funded under the program include those that provide school level educational related services for early childhood, elementary and secondary education.

The United States Department of Education (USDOE) determines the allocation of each state by formula on the basis of (1) its relative population who are aged 5 to 24, and (2) its relative total population. The State of Florida is expected to receive funding in the amount of approximately \$554,000,000.

Each state may reserve 2% of its allocation for the costs of administering the program. The State must award the remaining portion of the allocation (at least 98%) to Local Education Agencies (LEA). The State must distribute the funds to LEAs either 1) through the State's primary elementary and secondary education funding formula or 2) on the basis of the LEAs' relative share of funds under Part A of Title I of the elementary and secondary education act for the most recent fiscal year for which data is available.

The initial estimates of the resource allocation to Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), using method one is approximately \$70 million. If method two is utilized, M-DCPS' share would be roughly 20% higher.

The funds are available for obligations that occur as of August 10, 2010. An LEA that has funds remaining after the FY2010-11 school year may use those remaining funds through September 30, 2012. Funds may be used only to retain existing employees, to recall or rehire former employees, and to hire new employees, in order to provide early childhood, elementary, or secondary educational and related services; and may not be used for general administrative expenses.

The application process for the funds is in progress and states' application are due to USDOE on September 9, 2010. The USDOE anticipates awarding a state's total Education Jobs Fund allocation within two weeks of the Governor's submission of an approvable application. This item seeks to ask the School Board to allow the administration to begin using these funds now (they are available to fund obligations as of August 10, 2010) to hire teachers in order to support class size efforts and effectively schedule students.

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RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent to hire teachers to support the goal of the Education Jobs Fund Program and bring the grant award to the Board at the 1st meeting after its receipt.