

Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer
Office of Academics and Transformation

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE AND RENEW A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH FLORIDA AUTISM CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC., ON BEHALF OF SOUTH FLORIDA AUTISM CHARTER SCHOOL AND NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH BEACON COLLEGE PREP, INC., ON BEHALF OF BEACON COLLEGE PREP

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) currently offers educational choice options to over 50% of its students, approximately 15% of which is attributed to charter school enrollment. During the last several years, some charter schools have requested that the District provide management services through a separate contract. These services include curriculum development, regulatory compliance, personnel administration and financial management. South Florida Autism Charter Schools, Inc. is a charter school for students on the Autism Spectrum Disorder, and has had a contract with the District to provide management services since August, 2012. The school is located in Hialeah, Florida and serves 177 students in grades K-12. The school's charter was recently renewed for a term of five years, through June 30, 2019 and the school has requested that the District continue to provide management services for the term of the new contract.

Authorization is therefore requested for the Superintendent to negotiate and execute an agreement with South Florida Autism Charter Schools, Inc., a Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation, on behalf of South Florida Autism Charter School (SFACS), to provide administrative and operational services.

Authorization is also requested for the Superintendent to negotiate and execute an agreement with Beacon College Prep, Inc. to provide management services to a new charter school, Beacon College Prep scheduled to open in August, 2014 in the Liberty City area of Miami and is projected to serve 216 students in its first year. It is designed to provide an intensive educational program for students including an extended school day and strong community involvement. The school's charter is being approved for a term of five years through June 30, 2019, and the school has requested that the District provide management services for the term of the contract.

The agreements require the charter schools to pay the District a fee of up to 10% of funds received by the charter school through the Florida Education Finance Program per Full Time Equivalent student per year. Additional services, including but not limited to food service and transportation, may be provided under separate contract at cost.

RECOMMENDED:

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

1. to negotiate and renew a Management Agreement with South Florida Autism Charter Schools, Inc., a Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation, on behalf of South Florida Autism Charter School.
2. to negotiate and execute a Management Agreement with Beacon College Prep, Inc., a Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation, on behalf of Beacon College Prep.