José F. Montes de Oca, Chief Auditor Office of Management and Compliance Audits

SUBJECT:

FOLLOW-UP OF ARTS & MINDS CHARTER SCHOOL

INVESTIGATION

COMMITTEE:

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK:

FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY

The subject memorandum serves as the follow-up to our Investigation of Allegations Concerning Academy of Arts and Minds (School) Charter High School, issued in June 2012. Our original investigation largely substantiated four fundamental allegations and contained seven recommendations. In our follow-up review, we determined that the School and District have implemented all of our recommendations.

Most noteworthy in the follow-up report was that the School, under new management, negotiated a lease for its same facilities (which now has a new owner) for 25 years, as opposed to one year, clear demarcation of the demised premises, and with a base rent approximately \$340,000 for the first year, which is less than 50% of that of the prior year. Also, the Governing Board was reconstituted and includes the parent of a student currently enrolled in the School, as recommended in the audit report.

The School Board Audit and Budget Advisory Committee reviewed this report at its September 16, 2014, meeting and recommended transmitting it to the School Board.

Copies of this report were previously distributed and placed on file in the Office of the Recording Secretary to the School Board and in the Citizen Information Center. Additional copies will be provided upon request.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive and file the Follow-up of Arts & Minds Charter School Investigation.