

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A
CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
PUTNAM COUNTY ON BEHALF OF THE NORTH EAST
FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM (NEFEC) REGION II
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL
SUPPORT AND SERVICES TO TITLE I ADMINISTRATION AND
SELECTED TITLE I SCHOOLS**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

As a recipient of federal funds under the Title I Grant, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Due to the complexity of the NCLB and the importance of being in compliance with its requirements, the district is seeking the services of the North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) Region II Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to provide technical support and services to Title I Administration.

Through the School Board of Putnam County, the NEFEC Region II TAC will provide the following services:

- General NCLB and Title I guidance and technical assistance;
- On-site district office visits during the school year;
- Assistance with Local Education Agency Plans;
- Technical assistance with the preparation of synopses from all statewide Technical Assistance Meetings;
- Review of Self-Evaluation Work Papers;
- NCLB workshops for the district Title I and Migrant Education staff;
- Assistance with project applications during the annual spring Project Review Meeting;
- Information and resources about effective programs and strategies for low performing, high poverty schools; and
- School Improvement Project Grant information and technical assistance.

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Title I Administration will provide the funding for this contractual agreement with the School Board of Putnam County on behalf of the NEFEC Region II TAC, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000, from January 15, 2004 through June 30, 2004. The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) of the Title I budget under Fund 0420, Function 6400, Program 4358, Object 5310, Location 9617.

The Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 reviewed this contractual agreement on December 11, 2003 and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted based on NEFEC's specific expertise and their experience with working with large urban districts.

NEFEC Region II TAC has been selected to provide technical assistance services because it is one of three consortia identified by the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Safety and School Support, Title I/Migrant Programs. NEFEC serves the north central and northeastern sections of the state as well as larger urban school districts, thus providing the necessary expertise. The other two, Heartland Educational Consortium (HEC) and the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC), provide services to the small, rural Florida school districts.

This is the first contractual agreement with the School Board of Putnam County on behalf of NEFEC Region II TAC. Previously, technical assistance services were contracted directly through Dr. Louis E. Dunbar (currently Director, NEFEC Region II TAC) because of his particular expertise with school improvement specific to critically low-performing schools.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the School Board of Putnam County on behalf of the North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) Region II Technical Assistance Center to provide technical support and services to Title I Administration, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000, from January 15, 2004 through June 30, 2004.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Program Fund) of the Title I budget.

RKF/MCA/SRD:dm