

Mayco Villafañá, Chief Communications Officer

**SUBJECT:       REQUEST FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 2003-04 - 2005-06 AND APPROVAL OF FOUNDATION PROJECTS WHOSE FUNDING IS ALREADY IDENTIFIED**

**COMMITTEE:    BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

At a Board Workshop held on October 22, 2003, the Board was presented with the District Information Technology (IT) Strategic Plan, 2003-2004 – 2005-2006, detailing the IT strategic planning process. Subsequently, meetings were held with School Board Members to discuss the recommended plan and include their feedback in the plan. The recommended IT Strategic Plan identifies the District's information system needs over a three year period (IT strategic plans routinely operate on three-year cycles). In addition to identifying IT needs, the plan discusses the process for selecting and managing strategic actions so that their outcomes lead towards significant, measurable improvements in academic performance and operational efficiency. The plan was developed with stakeholder involvement (parents, school administrators, teachers, and students) as a result of an OPPAGA recommendation to better align District goals, improve services, and realize efficiencies.

The plan details a process to prioritize all District projects before they are presented to the Board for action. The plan includes Foundation and Portfolio projects totaling approximately \$100 million. Foundation projects are those projects which are critical and necessary to update the District's basic technology infrastructure. Portfolio projects have been requested by various departments as necessary enhancements to the current infrastructure but are not critical.

Approval is requested to implement the Foundation projects where a budget has been secured and identified. The total cost of these projects is \$3,122,700. Foundation projects and the secured funding costs are listed on pages 37 and 38 in the revised plan transmitted to the Board as part of this item. Any project not currently funded will come to the School Board once potential funding has been secured and a business case for the project has been detailed.

The IT Strategic Plan complements the existing and current District-wide Strategic Planning initiative now underway by establishing a method to match IT strategic direction to evolving District priorities as set by the Board.

**RECOMMENDED:**   That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1.           accept the recommended District IT Strategic Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, 2003-2004 - 2005-2006, and
2.           approve Foundation Projects where a budget has already been secured in the amount of \$3,122,700.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2003-2004 Adopted Budget.

DK/CM/tzr