

Office of Superintendent of Schools  
Board Meeting of February 9, 2000

January 26, 2000

Deputy Superintendent of Schools  
Henry C. Fraind

**SUBJECT: AMEND THE SCHOOL BOARD'S STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE A REQUEST FOR STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CAREER ACADEMY MODEL OF HIGH SCHOOL REFORM**

Miami-Dade County's One Community One Goal Initiative Workforce has recommended that Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) establish "Career Academies" in all senior high schools as "industry focus academies." Current funding levels have allowed MDCPS to establish Career Academies in only six senior high schools.

Career academies have proven to be a highly effective public/private partnership strategy providing combined academic and career training to high school students. They have proven to be especially effective in addressing the educational needs of at-risk students and in motivating these students to remain in school and graduate. National research has proven that school reform can be accelerated by the school-within-a-school concept.

The State of California has enacted legislation that utilizes career academies as a means of integrating academic and vocational training in a comprehensive program of secondary and post-secondary career education. If this concept is adopted in Florida, the career academy model can make a very positive contribution towards meeting the needs of the state for a highly skilled and educated workforce in the 21st century.

These funds would provide additional sources of federal and state revenue to further the implementation of this major School-To-Career model.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, amend its state and federal legislative programs to include a request for state and federal funding for the expansion of the Career Academy model of high school reform.

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H - 12