

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION WITH
RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION FOR
THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACTUAL
AGREEMENT FOR THE 2001-2002 SCHOOL YEAR**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has received charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations from the community. The Hialeah Gardens Language Immersion Charter School application was submitted to the Charter School Review Committee on February 4, 2000, as established in School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.47, Charter Schools. The committee members voted to recommend Hialeah Gardens Language Immersion Charter School for approval.

Hialeah Gardens Language Immersion Charter School will serve approximately 600 students enrolled in grades K-5, with 500 students enrolled in its first year in grades K-4. The school site will be located at Northwest 88th Avenue and 103rd Street. The City of Hialeah Gardens plans to open the charter school in the 2001-2002 school year, allowing sufficient time for construction of the facility. The charter school will be operated by the City of Hialeah Gardens through a management contract with Charter Schools USA.

In order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a municipality or other public entity as provided by law are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the local school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated during the term of the charter.

The Charter School Review Committee identified issues in the recommended application which will have to be addressed satisfactorily in the development of the charter school contractual agreement. Final implementation of the charter school will be predicated on the successful and timely completion of the charter school contractual agreement and subsequent approval by the School Board.

Copies of the charter school application will be provided to the Board members under separate cover, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

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

1. approve the Hialeah Gardens Language Immersion Charter School application and authorize the negotiation of a 15-year charter school contractual agreement for the 2001-2002 through 2015-2016 school years; and
2. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate with the approved applicant the charter school contractual agreement which reflects the content of the application, as approved by the School Board, and in compliance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rule, such charter school contractual agreement to be submitted for School Board consideration at a subsequent meeting, at which time there will be a public hearing to provide for community input.

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