

May 2, 2000

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI-MAILMAN CENTER FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND SPECIALIZED SPEECH TRAINING FOR DEAF STUDENTS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$494,550, FROM JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001**

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami-Mailman Center for Child Development to provide educational services and specialized speech training for deaf students. The University of Miami/Miami-Dade County Public Schools Program for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing (UM/M-DCPS Program) specializes in training children to use sensory aids such as hearing aids and tactile aids or cochlear implants. When worn in combination with hearing aids, tactile aids enhance the ability to understand and produce spoken language. Basic instruction, as well as individual and group speech therapy, focuses on developing the students' skills in interpreting the signal into speech sounds. This contractual agreement has been in effect since 1985.

The UM/M-DCPS Program will provide: certified personnel, technical and training assistance to implement the program, an on-site training coordinator who supervises program activities, equipment, and equipment maintenance. Students will receive basic instruction as well as individual and group sensory aid instruction. Additionally, the UM/M-DCPS Program will provide technical and training assistance for the satellite sites at Auburndale Elementary School, and Rockway and Palm Springs middle schools.

Funding for this contract will be provided, at least in part, by FTE from the Florida Education Finance Program. The summer program will be provided through the Supplemental Academic Instruction Program. The contractual agreement will provide for up to 32 full-time students to be served in the UM/M-DCPS Program, including a maximum of ten students below age three, in an amount not to exceed \$494,550, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000 under Fund 0100, Function 5217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731.

The Project Director of the University of Miami-Mailman Center for Child Development, Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, is Kathleen Verga.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami-Mailman Center for Child Development to provide educational services and specialized speech training for deaf students, in an amount not to exceed \$494,550, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000.

RKF:pbl