

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, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$31,050, TO COVER PARTIAL TUITION COSTS FOR TEACHERS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE READING/LEARNING DISABILITIES MASTER'S OR SPECIALIST DEGREE PROGRAM, FROM AUGUST 23, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 20, 2001

The Comprehensive Reading Plan includes partial funding for a master's or specialist degree at the University of Miami leading toward certification in Reading and Learning Disabilities (L.D.). The curriculum developed for this degree represents a joint effort on the part of the University of Miami and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Division of Language Arts/Reading.

Three cohorts of teachers were selected to participate in the program. Cohort I and II will finish in August 2000, and Cohort III in August 2001. The contractual agreement will cover partial cost of tuition and allow teachers in Cohort III to complete the program.

The Comprehensive Reading Plan identifies the University of Miami as the collaborative agency to provide this program. Therefore, the contract being recommended here does not require submission to the Professional Services Contract Committee for a waiver from School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami to provide the Reading/L.D. Master's/Specialist Degree programs, for a total of 15 M-DCPS teachers currently participating in the programs as part of Cohort III. The total cost of this contractual agreement will not exceed \$31,050. The contract will consist of multiple partial payments to cover the cost of tuition for the different University of Miami registration cycles through August 2001.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2000-2001 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000 under Fund 0100, Object 5290, Location 9608, Program 9000, Function 5101.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the University of Miami, in an amount not to exceed \$31,050, to cover partial costs for teachers selected to participate in the Reading/Learning Disabilities Master's or Specialist Degree Program, from August 23, 2000 through June 20, 2001.

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

MT:bjz