

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATIONS WITH
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION FOR
THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE CONTRACTUAL
AGREEMENTS FOR THE 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools received charter school applications from individuals and/or organizations from the community. These applications were submitted to the Charter School Review Committee on November 17 and 21, 2000, as established in School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.47, Charter Schools. The committee members voted to recommend the following applications for approval:

Downtown Miami Charter School will serve approximately 600 students enrolled in grades K-5, with 500 students enrolled in its first year in grades K-4, in the Riverside Area at the intersection of Southwest Second Avenue and Third Street. The charter school will be operated by Miami Downtown Development Authority (Miami DDA) through a management contract with Charter Schools USA, Inc.

Keys Gate Charter School will serve approximately 900 students enrolled in grades K-8, with 800 students enrolled in its first year in grades K-7; school site will be identified prior to contract approval. The charter school will be operated by Homestead Charter Foundation through a management contract with Charter Schools USA, Inc.

Miami Children's Museum Charter School will serve approximately 350 students enrolled in grades K-5, with 300 students enrolled in its first year in grades K-5, at the south side of Watson Island. The charter school will be operated by The Miami Children's Museum Charter School, Inc. through a management contract with Academica Corporation.

Any pending issues identified by the Charter School Review Committee in the recommended applications, will be addressed satisfactorily in the development of the charter school contractual agreement. Final implementation of the charter schools 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 placed on file, and will be available for inspection in the School Board members' office, in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

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

1. approve Downtown Miami Charter School application and authorize the negotiation of a ten-year charter school contractual agreement for the 2002-2003 through 2011-2012 school years;
2. approve Keys Gate Charter School application and authorize the negotiation of a ten-year charter school contractual agreement for the 2002-2003 through 2011-2012 school years;
3. approve Miami Children's Museum Charter School application and authorize the negotiation of a ten-year charter school contractual agreement for the 2002-2003 through 2011-2012 school years; and
4. authorize the Superintendent to negotiate with the approved applicants the charter school contractual agreements which reflect the content of the applications, as approved by the School Board, and in compliance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rule, such charter school contractual agreements 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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