Jacqueline V. Pepper, Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DIRECT
THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DIRECT STAFF TO DESIGNATE AN ARCHITECT
TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF COMPILING AND COMPLETING
THE APPLICATIONS FOR THE SIT AWARDS AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE
OF FLORIDA SMART SCHOOLS CLEARINGHOUSE. THIS TEMPORARY
ASSIGNMENT REQUIRES THE REASSIGNMENT OF ONE FULL TIME
EXISTING EMPLOYEE FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE MONTHS

In 1997, the State of Florida established the Smart Schools Clearinghouse to assist school districts in building SMART schools utilizing functional and frugal practices. Smart Schools are schools that are soundly made, accountable, reasonable, and thrifty. The Smart Schools Clearinghouse was funded and authorized to give grants to school districts which constructed schools meeting the program's guidelines. The program established cost targets for construction of permanent student stations and calculates the amount of the award for a specific school as half of the money the school district saved by building the school below the cost target.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has built and is continuing to build schools which could qualify| Revised for major awards if the applications are properly submitted before the award funds are exhausted. **Time is of the essence because awards are on a first come, first served basis**. As of this date, these grants, called SIT Awards, have been given to many school districts throughout Florida. For example, Broward County Schools received a SIT award of $13,000,000 at their February Board meeting. (See attached Exhibit A for awards made to date.) The program was initially funded with $350,000,000 and only about $160,000,000 is still available. There is no assurance by the legislature that this program will continue after the present funds are exhausted.

While numerous awards have been made for Charter Schools in Miami-Dade County, we have not yet submitted complete and correct applications to the Clearinghouse for review and award for our recently completed schools. In several meetings with staff, the only reason advanced for not having already applied for the awards was lack of resources. When everyone is responsible no one is responsible. Someone must be assigned to have as his or her primary responsibility the completion of the SIT award application for each eligible school. Because of the complexity of the application process, and the need for a thorough understanding of the rules in order to maximize potential awards, the most efficient way to ensure that the applications are completed quickly and correctly is to temporarily reassign an architect, currently employed by the school system, to be responsible for the application process under the supervision of the Chief of Facilities. If not done quickly Miami-Dade County Public Schools may lose millions of dollars of construction money from this source.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
JACQUELINE V. PEPPER:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the
Superintendent to direct staff to designate an architect to be
responsible for all aspects of compiling and completing the
applications for the SIT awards available from the State of Florida
SMART Schools Clearinghouse. This temporary assignment
requires the reassignment of one full time existing employee for
approximately three months.

REVISED
B-11

APPROPRIATION - 1997 Regular Session $50 Million GR;   1997 Special Session $50 Million Lottery Bonded and $150 Million GR;
1999 Regular Session $100 Million Lottery Bonded

					Awarded through:	30-Jan-01
Summary Data - Total Awarded To Date:		Total Number of New Schools	Total Dollars Awarded for Thrifty New Construction	Total Number of Charter Schools	Total Dollars Awarded for Sponsoring Charter Schools	Remaining Balance
189,885,493		62	86,835,885	163	103,049,608	160,114,507
					Beginning Balance	350,000,000

District	Date	Number of New Schools	Dollars Awarded for Thrifty New Construction	Number of Charter Schools	Dollars Awarded for Sponsoring Charter Schools	Running Balance
Brevard	26-Mar-98	1	1,948,524			348,051,476
Seminole	23-Apr-98	1	863,944			347,187,532
Okaloosa	31-Jul-98	3	2,042,522	1	2,313,500	342,831,510
Manatee	31-Jul-98			3	1,401,289	341,430,221
Alachua	31-Jul-98			3	726,225	340,703,996
Polk	31-Jul-98			4	1,973,750	338,730,246
Walton	31-Jul-98			1	395,675	338,334,571
Seminole	1-Oct-98			1	704,900	337,629,671
Hillsborough	1-Oct-98			3	1,322,125	336,307,546
Santa Rosa	1-Oct-98	1	3,108,752			333,198,794
Duval	1-Dec-98			3	2,306,900	330,891,894
Sarasota	1-Dec-98			2	546,850	330,345,044
Dade	1-Dec-98			1	783,000	329,562,044
Escambia	1-Dec-98			1	1,258,400	328,303,644
Palm Beach	1-Dec-98	1	2,321,262			325,982,382
Palm Beach	2-Feb-99	1	2,890,805			323,091,577
Pinellas	2-Feb-99	3	604,205			322,487,372
Broward	2-Feb-99			3	2,009,700	320,477,672
Leon	16-Mar-99			1	794,675	319,682,997
Orange	16-Mar-99			2	1,266,200	318,416,797
St. Lucie	16-Mar-99	2	2,017,035	1	536,500	315,863,262
Osceola	4-May-99			1	1,332,222	314,531,040
Brevard	4-May-99	1	1,580,629			312,950,411
Broward	13-Jul-99			6	7,879,593	305,070,818
Collier	13-Jul-99			1	1,346,796	303,724,022
Dade	13-Jul-99			6	3,344,620	300,379,402
Escambia	13-Jul-99			1	680,200	299,699,202
Gadsden	13-Jul-99			1	197,258	299,501,944
Hillsborough	13-Jul-99	2	1,733,198	7	3,596,771	294,171,975
Indian River	13-Jul-99			3	2,345,063	291,826,912
Manatee	13-Jul-99			3	2,113,810	289,713,102
Martin	13-Jul-99			1	415,275	289,297,827
Orange	13-Jul-99			1	246,199	289,051,628
Palm Beach	13-Jul-99			1	88,988	288,962,640
Pinellas	13-Jul-99			1	364,210	288,598,430
Santa Rosa	13-Jul-99			1	799,666	287,798,764
St. Lucie	13-Jul-99	1	3,122,719			284,676,045
Volusia	13-Jul-99	1	98,230			284,577,815
Brevard	21-Sep-99			4	1,673,355	282,904,460
Manatee	21-Sep-99			1	259,793	282,644,667
Orange	21-Sep-99			1	1,137,179	281,507,488
Polk	21-Sep-99			4	452,851	281,054,637
Sarasota	21-Sep-99			3	1,085,458	279,969,179
Santa Rosa	21-Sep-99	2	4,927,383			275,041,796
Alachua	16-Nov-99			4	797,441	274,244,355
Duval	16-Nov-99			4	4,043,350	270,201,005
Jackson	16-Nov-99			1	243,464	269,957,541

District	Date	Number of New Schools	Dollars Awarded for Thrifty New Construction	Number of Charter Schools	Dollars Awarded for Sponsoring Charter Schools	Running Balance
Seminole	16-Nov-99			2	700,040	269,257,501
Volusia	16-Nov-99			1	593,250	268,664,251
Charlotte	16-Nov-99	1	1,108,214			267,556,037
Palm Beach	25-Jan-00			1	378,063	267,177,974
Orange	25-Jan-00			1	371,320	266,806,654
Marion	25-Jan-00	1	511,707			266,294,947
Volusia	25-Jan-00	1	869,517			265,425,430
Brevard	11-Apr-00	2	3,204,178			262,221,252
Pinellas	11-Apr-00	1	304,884			261,916,368
Desoto	11-Apr-00			1	381,514	261,534,854
Palm Beach	11-Apr-00			1	39,332	261,495,522
Walton	11-Apr-00			1	173,438	261,322,084
Alachua	29-Jun-00			6	1,716,984	259,605,100
Brevard	29-Jun-00			3	1,138,151	258,466,949
Broward	29-Jun-00			7	16,328,109	242,138,840
Charlotte	29-Jun-00			1	1,276,979	240,861,861
Dade	29-Jun-00			10	8,569,680	232,292,181
Escambia	29-Jun-00			2	1,065,068	231,227,113
Hillsborough	29-Jun-00			5	2,058,729	229,168,384
Indian River	29-Jun-00			3	557,723	228,610,661
Lake	29-Jun-00			1	573,781	228,036,880
Leon	29-Jun-00			1	1,107,971	226,928,909
Levy	29-Jun-00			1	381,156	226,547,753
Manatee	29-Jun-00			4	1,913,043	224,634,710
Monroe	29-Jun-00			2	565,769	224,068,941
Orange	29-Jun-00			2	809,216	223,259,725
Osceola	29-Jun-00			1	323,065	222,936,660
Palm Beach	29-Jun-00			1	450,938	222,485,722
Pasco	29-Jun-00	2	4,573,947			217,911,775
Pinellas	29-Jun-00	2	670,764	1	54,459	217,186,552
St. Lucie	29-Jun-00	1	1,121,740			216,064,812
Suwannee	29-Jun-00	1	1,147,334			214,917,478
Volusia	29-Jun-00			1	251,117	214,666,361
Wakulla	29-Jun-00			1	347,953	214,318,408
Brevard	28-Sep-00	1	5,468,861	1	333,346	208,516,201
Duval	28-Sep-00			5	3,055,872	205,460,329
Hillsborough	28-Sep-00	4	7,691,819			197,768,510
Marion	28-Sep-00	1	546,598			197,221,912
Palm Beach	28-Sep-00			3	1,313,068	195,908,844
Polk	28-Sep-00			1	592,984	195,315,860
Santa Rosa	28-Sep-00	1	2,172,527			193,143,333
Volusia	28-Sep-00			1	1,089,224	192,054,109
Brevard	30-Jan-01			1	187,581	191,866,528
Broward	30-Jan-01	10	13,546,007			178,320,521
Citrus	30-Jan-01			1	211,152	178,109,369
Clay	30-Jan-01	1	446,218			177,663,151
Collier	30-Jan-01			1	447,469	177,215,682
Gadsden	30-Jan-01			1	90,188	177,125,494
Marion	30-Jan-01	1	828,295			176,297,199
Orange	30-Jan-01	5	2,965,765			173,331,434
Polk	30-Jan-01	2	5,407,841			167,923,593
Sarasota	30-Jan-01			1	818,625	167,104,968
Seminole	30-Jan-01	3	6,743,061			160,361,907
Volusia	30-Jan-01	1	247,400			160,114,507