

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO SELECT COMMUNITY CHILD
CARE AGENCIES THAT WILL PROVIDE PREKINDERGARTEN
SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN EARLY INTERVENTION
FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN**

Since the 1986-87 school year, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has contracted with community child-care agencies to provide prekindergarten services and to enhance existing prekindergarten program services for four-year-old children. This strategy is an appropriate method of providing services to the greatest number of eligible children as outlined by Section 411.01, Florida Statutes.

Authorization is sought for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2001-2002 school year by the Division of Early Childhood Programs, from community child-care agencies to ensure that M-DCPS maximizes the utilization of the most qualified agencies in delivering quality prekindergarten services. Community child-care agencies are being sought to provide quality prekindergarten services to eligible four-year-old children who reside in geographic locations that M-DCPS is unable to serve.

The selection of the community child-care agencies will be determined by a committee on the basis of several factors including background, qualifications, and experience. The Selection Committee will consist of:

- a director and administrative director from the Division of Early Childhood Programs;
- two district supervisors for Early Childhood Programs;
- an executive officer from Title I administration;
- an elementary school principal;
- a prekindergarten teacher;
- a representative from the Division of Business Development and Assistance;
- and
- a director from the Division of Procurement Management and Materials Testing.

The estimated timeline for implementation is as follows:

Procurement Contract Review Committee	March 8, 2001
Request Board approval to Issue RFP and approval of Selection Committee	April 18, 2001
Mailing of RFP	April 20, 2001
Opening of Proposals	May 10, 2001
Evaluation completed by Selection Committee	May 14, 2001
Recommendation to School Board for approval	June 20, 2001

A copy of the RFP will be transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover prior to the School Board Meeting of April 18, 2001, and will be available for inspection in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary, and the Citizen Information Center.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. issue a Request for Proposals to select child-care agencies that will implement quality prekindergarten services to eligible four-year-old children; and
2. approve the establishment of a Selection Committee that will review the proposals.

NSC:glm