

August 10, 2001

Eddie T. Pearson, Deputy Superintendent
School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR A PILOT TEST PROGRAM TO INVESTIGATE THE
FEASIBILITY OF PARTICIPATING IN THE "DRIVERCHECK" SAFETY
PROGRAM**

On December 13, 2000, the Board directed the Superintendent to investigate the feasibility of participating in the "DriverCheck" Safety Program. This program is recognized by its familiar "How's My Driving" decal placed in participating vehicles.

The placement of these decals does not conform to current school bus specifications. Therefore, a request for waiver was submitted to the Department of Education. On April 10, 2001, the district received authorization from Mr. Wayne V. Pierson, Deputy Commissioner for Planning, Budgeting and Management, Florida Department of Education, to conduct a pilot test program utilizing specific criteria and testing protocol. The attached testing protocol has been developed by staff in the Office of Educational Evaluation and Management Analysis.

The pilot program will compare the safety and effectiveness of transportation operations at two large transportation centers using the "DriverCheck" system, with the performance of two comparable centers not utilizing the program. The pilot test program will last six months, at which time, the system will be evaluated.

The cost of the initial pilot test program will be approximately \$3,800. Results of the pilot test program will be provided to the Board at a later date with a recommendation concerning full implementation, which, if recommended, is expected to cost approximately \$21,000 per year.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County direct the Superintendent of Schools to conduct a pilot test of the "DriverCheck" Safety Program to determine its effectiveness at a cost not to exceed \$3,800.

ETP:dif