

October 31, 2001

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH CAPO CONSULTING, FOR THE UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SEAWATER AQUARIUM SYSTEMS LOCATED AT THE MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS BISCAYNE NATURE CENTER, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$32,500, FROM DECEMBER 1, 2001 THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2002

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a contractual agreement with Capo Consulting for the upkeep, repair and maintenance of the two seawater aquarium systems located at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Inc., on Key Biscayne.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), in partnership with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center for Environmental Education and the Miami-Dade County Parks Department, is developing for M-DCPS students environmental education programs that will be offered at the Biscayne Nature Center. Capo Consulting was selected as the best qualified to perform the work through a review process conducted by staff members of the agencies involved in the partnership.

The M-DCPS Biscayne Nature Center for Environmental Education, located at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, operates a year-round program for over 14,000 elementary, middle, and senior high school students. It has won three Florida Department of Education state awards as a program of distinction and excellence, and it has been selected by the Florida Department of Education as a "Demonstration Site" for other districts to visit as a model for an exemplary environmental education program.

The maintenance services of this contractual agreement will include, but are not limited to, performing checks of the operating equipment on a weekly basis. Checks will include: reverse osmosis filtration system; chillers; ultraviolet lighting bacterial disinfectant apparatus; storage tanks; maintaining the overall health of the systems and all specimens within the tanks; back-flushing sand filters weekly; and stocking display tanks and classroom tanks as appropriate.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021, reviewed this contractual agreement on October 26, 2001, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted as otherwise determined by the Committee.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Contracted Programs Fund of the 2001-2002 Adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Function 5103, Program 9008, Object 5350, Location 9628.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a contractual agreement with Capo Consulting, for the upkeep and maintenance of the seawater aquarium systems located at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center for Environmental Education, Inc., at a cost not to exceed \$32,500, from December 1, 2001 through December 1, 2002; and
2. grant an exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Contracted Programs Fund of the 2001-2002 Adopted Budget.

JHM:kc