Financial Affairs Richard H. Hinds, Chief Financial Officer

## SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRMS AND REQUEST FOR SWAP PROPOSALS

The District wishes to evaluate the possibility of entering into interest rate swaps, which would result in debt service savings.

Inasmuch as different swap variations exist, it is proposed that a review and evaluation be performed of swap proposals to determine the viability of the District entering into such an arrangement.

The Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) will make a recommendation to the Superintendent for further consideration by the School Board. The IAC will have the support of staff to evaluate and review the proposals received.

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

- a) Authorize the issuance and distribution of the Request for Qualifications and Request for Proposals for swaps presented as Exhibit A and.
- b) Appoint the Investment Advisory Committee to submit a recommendation on the proposals received.

# THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS OF FIRMS

#### **REQUEST FOR SWAP PROPOSALS**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County (the "District") is requesting qualifications and proposals from selected firms interested in entering into interest rate swaps with the District in which the District will pay a floating rate and receive a fixed rate or pay a floating rate and receive a fixed rate based on a pre-determined interest rate index. The District will also consider swaptions and any other transactions of this type. The time schedule for entering into the swap is currently expected to be as follows:

February 14, 2002	Send RFP to potential Swap Providers
March 20, 2002	Receive responses and comments on draft Schedule from interested Providers.
April 18, 2002	Finalize form of Schedule with Providers.  Determine Providers eligible to bid.
On or about April 25, 2002	Send out Bid Notice with detail of bid time and notional amount.
To be determined	Receive Bids and Select Provider.
To be determined	Effective Date for Swap.
To be determined	Sign documents.

Dates are subject to change.

The swaps will have a notional amount to be determined and will amortize as set forth in the bid. Bids are subject to negotiation. The District may or may not receive an advance payment as part of this transaction. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularity. Proposals, which include more than one firm, will not be accepted.

Firm qualifications are to include counterparty financial strength, the firm's personnel which would participate in finalizing the transaction, the firm's experience in completing similar transactions, the firm's financial capacity and any other indication of the firm's qualification.

The bidding will be conducted through the District's Financial Advisor. Final instructions regarding the submission of and terms for the bid will be communicated to those firms selected as eligible to participate (the "Bid Notice"). All selected firms interested in submitting a bid must contact the District prior to 12:00 noon on the day before bids are due.

The general terms of this request for swap proposals are described below. The District G.O. debt has an underlying rating of A+ from Standard & Poor's Rating Services and an A2 rating from Moody's Investors Services. Copies of financial statements for the District are available upon request to the District's Treasurer:

Eduardo A. Alfaro, CPA Office of Treasury Management 1450 N.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite #615 Miami, FL 33132 (305-995-1684)

Any questions regarding legal issues may be addressed to Robert C. Gang, of Greenberg Traurig, Bond Counsel, at (305) 579-0886. Questions regarding the bidding procedures may be addressed to Annette DeLara, DeLara/Associates, at (212) 580-8768. Firms are requested to contact the above as soon as possible to discuss issues relating to the draft Schedule.

Party A:	To be determined	
Party B:	The School Board of Miami-Dade County	
Notional Amount:	To determined	
Amortization:	Proposals will be considered. The District wishes to receive a detailed report listing its maximum potential risk. The District will also evaluate purchasing an interest rate cap and desires to receive full details of cost versus advantages.	
Trade Date:		
Effective Date:		
Termination Date:	Open, subject to the District's right of optional termination, if any.	
FIXED AMOUNTS		
Fixed Rate Payer:		
Fixed Rate:	To be determined based on bid	
Fixed Rate Payment Dates:	Semi-annually on each and	
Day Count:	30/360	
FLOATING AMOUNTS		
Floating Rate Payer:		
Floating Rate:	Pursuant to evaluation of a selected index	

Floating Rate Reset Dates:

Pursuant to the parameters of the selected index

Floating Rate Payment Dates:

Monthly on the first business day of each month. and terminating on the

commencing Termination Date.

Day Count:

Actual/365

Cross Default:

Will apply to Party A and B.

Threshold Amount:

Automatic Early Termination:

Will apply to Party A or Party B

Credit Event Upon Merger:

Will apply to Party A and Party B

Payments on Early Termination:

Market Quotation

Optional Termination:

Party B shall have the right to terminate the swap at market at any time.

Rating Downgrade:

In the event that the long-term debt or the swap rating of Party A falls below A3 from Moody's or A- from Standard & Poor's, Party A will be required to i) reestablish its ratings to the required ratings (A2 from Moody's or A from Standard 7 Poor's), ii) assign or transfer its rights and obligations to a Qualified Replacement Counterparty, or iii) establish such other arrangement as will result in achieving the required ratings, which may include providing a guaranty or collateralizing any net present value of its obligation under the Swap Agreement. Failure to meet this requirement will result in an Event of Default and Automatic Termination.

Governing Law:

The Swap Agreement will be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, without reference to choice of laws doctrine, including the capacity, power, or authority of Party B to enter into the Swap Agreement and any issue relating to Party B's resolution authorizing the Swap Agreement.

Closing Certificate:

Party A will be required to provide necessary certificates on

the Effective Date of the swap as required by the District's

Bond Counsel.

Indemnity:

Party B will not provide indemnity to Party A.

A sample of the proposed bid form is enclosed.

## THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

### **Proposals from Swap Counterparties**

#### **BID FORM**

Bid Date	[To be announced]
Bid Time	[To be announced]

Floating Rate Payer	
Fixed Rate Payer	
Fixed Rate	
Notional Amounts	
Notional Amortization	
Trade Date	
Effective Date	
Termination Date	

Notional An	nount:
\$	
Bid Rate (annu	ıal rate):
	%

Miami-Dade County	r into a Confirmation to serv according to the terms and and the I	e as swap counterparty with The School Board of doubtions specified in the Request for Swap Bid Form.
	Final Rate Payer:	
	Long Term Ratings:	(Moody's / S&P / Fitch)
	Short Term Ratings:	
Authorized	Officer	(Moody's / S&P / Fitch)
	Signature:	
	Name:	· .
	Title:	
	Telephone Number:	
	Fax Number:	
	Email Address:	