

Education  
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST/JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO OPERATE A SHORT-TERM TRANSITIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SEVERELY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED STUDENTS AT JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL/HIGHLAND PARK, FROM JULY 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH) to operate a short-term transitional education program for severely emotionally disturbed (SED) students at Jackson Memorial Hospital/Highland Park. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1988 and serves a maximum of 20 students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Students in the following categories are eligible for placement in the program:

- students who are in-patients at the Jackson Memorial/Highland Park facility and who have been determined to be eligible for an SED placement;
- students who have recently been discharged from this facility or another psychiatric in-patient/residential program who have been determined to be eligible for an SED placement but who require interim placement in a physically secure facility; and
- students who are currently placed in other Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) / SED programs, but are in need of a short-term physically secure facility in an effort to avert placement in a more restrictive setting.

M-DCPS provides instructional personnel, itinerant services of an art therapist, a speech and language therapist (as needed), educational materials, equipment, supplies, and bus transportation. Therapeutic services are also provided by M-DCPS, including individual and group therapy, parent education and family therapy, behavior management programming, psychological evaluations, social histories, and psychiatric consultation services. Supervision of the program is provided by the Office of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services. JMH provides classroom space, psychiatric evaluations, crisis intervention, music therapy and, if needed, occupational therapy.

The President of Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital is Mr. Ira C. Clark.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Public Health Trust/Jackson Memorial Hospital to operate a short-term transitional educational program for severely emotionally disturbed students, from July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. to renew the cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

MT/rkf