

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH ALCALDE AND FAY EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

The firm of Alcalde and Fay is being recommended for contract renewal with Miami-Dade County Public Schools for a period of 15 months. At the conclusion of the 15-month period, the contract, if renewed, would be for a 12-month period (July - June).

Alcalde and Fay is a Washington-based consulting firm which provides counsel on government, legislative, and public affairs. This firm is uniquely qualified to provide representation and liaison on legislative and administrative affairs at the federal level. Since March 1997, Alcalde and Fay has served as the Board's liaison with the various federal departments and agencies and has advanced the Board's Federal Legislative Program.

The expertise of Alcalde and Fay extends to the impact of welfare reform and immigration legislation, and the Bush administration's newly enacted education initiative. Since the 107th Congress has convened, it is imperative that Miami-Dade County Public Schools secure immediate expert assistance in these areas of critical impact.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 met on February 20, 2002 to review this request and recommends that an exception to the rule be granted as otherwise determined by the Committee. The contract would be for a total amount not to exceed \$93,750, inclusive of travel expenses and out-of-pocket expenses, pursuant to Florida Statutes.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Contracted Program Fund Number 9095 of the 2001-2002 Adopted Budget.

A copy of the agreement will be transmitted to the Board under separate cover and will be placed on file in the Citizen Information Center and the Office of the Board Recording Secretary.

RECOMMENDED:

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to renew a contractual agreement with Alcalde and Fay for government relations services in an amount not to exceed \$93,750 for the period beginning April 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. grant an exception to Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Contracted Program Fund Number 9095 of the 2001-2002 Adopted Budget.

MT:mpt