**Business Operations** Joe Arriola, Chief Business Officer

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT GRANTS FROM THE MIAMI BUSINESS FORUM, ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL, AND THE **KNIGHT** RIDDER, INC. TO IMPLEMENT OPPAGA RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,500.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has received notification of grants from The Miami Business Forum in the amount of \$25,000, from Royal Caribbean International in the amount of \$10,000 and the Knight Ridder, Inc. in the amount of \$9,500, making a total of \$44,500. The grants are specifically designated to assist the District in the implementation of the OPPAGA recommendations pertaining to the Department of Facilities Maintenance and are conditioned upon the money being used for contracting with the firm of Urban Policy Development to carry out the tasks. Staff has reviewed the background of Urban Policy Development and believes the firm is uniquely qualified to assist the District in implementing OPPAGA recommendations.

A backup memorandum explaining in detail the nature and conditional requirements of the grants and providing documentation of the experience and expertise of Urban Policy Development has been provided to the Board under separate cover.

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

- 1. authorize the Superintendent to accept grants from The Business Forum, Royal Caribbean International, and the Knight Ridder, Inc., in the total amount of \$44,500; and
- 2. enter into a contract with Urban Policy Development to assist the District in implementation of the OPPAGA recommendations in the amount of \$44,500.

JA:omc