

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY TO FUND THE COST OF HIRING AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR AND A SECRETARY TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MIAMI-DADE AREA CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT (ACEE) GRANT PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$109,108, FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003

COMMITTEE: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Florida International University (FIU), the primary partner for the Miami-Dade Area Center for Educational Enhancement (ACEE), in an amount not to exceed \$109,108. This funding will cover the total cost of hiring an associate director and a secretary to support the Miami-Dade ACEE grant program. The Board approved acceptance of the grant award at its meeting of October 23, 2002, Item B-68 for the period of September 10, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

The mission of the ACEE is to build and sustain the capacity of schools and the school district in support of curriculum reform and improved instructional practice designed to increase student mastery of Florida's Sunshine State Standards. The Miami-Dade ACEE will provide leadership and technical assistance in the form of expert consultation, research-based professional development, enhanced communication and collaboration with partnering agencies and institutions, and identification of resources necessary to enhance teaching and learning in Florida classrooms. The associate director will assist and advise the director of the ACEE, housed in the Office of Educational Planning and Quality Enhancement, in the organization, monitoring, and implementation of district/state initiatives. The secretary position will provide secretarial/clerical support and assistance to the associate director to maintain the day-to-day operations of the Center. These positions will be housed at the higher education site, FIU, as agreed to by the district and the primary higher education partner. The associate director and secretary positions will report to the director on all matters.

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The Miami-Dade Area Center for Educational Enhancement (ACEE) grant program, as approved by the School Board at its meeting of October 23, 2002, included Florida International University as the agency to provide the services of an associate director and a secretary. Therefore, the contract being recommended here does not require submission to the Professional Services Contract Committee for a waiver from School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

Funds, in an amount not to exceed \$109,108, have been awarded by the Florida Department of Education for the total expenses associated with the funding of these positions.

No local funds are required.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Florida International University to fund the cost of hiring an associate director and a secretary to facilitate the implementation of the Miami-Dade Area Center for Educational Enhancement (ACEE) grant program, in an amount not to exceed \$109,108, from September 10, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

No local funds are required.

ERR/RM:mr