


MEMORANDUM

March 11, 2003

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

FROM: Merrett R. Stierheim, Superintendent of Schools 

SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF BOARD AGENDA ITEM B-2, CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ON BEHALF OF CHARTER ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

Attached is a letter dated March 7, 2003, from Dr. H. Wells Singleton, Educational Provost and University Dean, Nova Southeastern University, notifying the District that Nova Southeastern University will not pursue the establishment of a charter school. Therefore, Board Agenda item B-2 is being withdrawn.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent for Education, at 305 995-1960, or Mr. Michael Bell, Administrative Director, Division of Schools of Choice, at 305 995-7260.

MRS/MT/MB/dcr
M-2046

cc: Superintendent's Executive Staff
Mr. Johnny Brown
Mr. Michael Bell
Dr. Carlo Rodriguez



March 7, 2003

Dr. Carlos Rodriguez
Miami Dade County Public Schools
1500 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33132

Dr. Dr. Rodriguez:

It is my regrettable duty to inform you that after considerable discussion and reflection, Nova Southeastern University will not be pursuing the establishment of a charter school on the North Miami Beach campus.

While I am acutely aware of both the need for and an interest in establishing a charter school on the North Miami Beach campus, the conditions for establishing a charter school including financial support are too questionable for us to continue this effort as part of our mission at the Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services.

Thank you for your support, excellent advice and friendship.

Sincerely,

H. Wells Singleton, Ph.D.
Education Provost and University Dean
HWS/lab

Cc: President Ferrero
Dr. Kropp
Dr. Joseph Barimo
Dr. Judy Stein
Ms. Terry Maus

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE
2003 MAR -7 PM 4:25

February 24, 2003

Education
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER
 SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH NOVA
 SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, INC., ON BEHALF OF CHARTER
 ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

On December 11, 2002, the School Board approved a charter school application submitted by Nova Southeastern University, Inc. The Board authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2003-2004 school year. The Charter School Contract Review Committee met on February 7, 2003, and by unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the proposed site and the charter school contractual agreement with Nova Southeastern University, Inc., on behalf of Charter Academy of Excellence.

Charter Academy of Excellence will be located at 1750 NE 168 Street, North Miami Beach, Florida 33162. The charter school will serve a maximum of 600 students in grades kindergarten through five, with 375 children in its first year of operation. The Fischler Graduate School of Education and Human Services of Nova Southeastern University will operate the charter school.

The following is the Founding Board for Charter Academy of Excellence: H. Wells Singleton, Provost, Nova Southeastern University; Joseph Barimo, Executive Director of Budgets and Planning, Nova Southeastern University; Judith S. Stein, Director, National Institute for Educational Options, Nova Southeastern University; and Michael W. Gaffley, Program Professor, Nova Southeastern University. The Governing Board will be selected prior to the opening of the school.

B-2

ITEM WITHDRAWN

(3-11-03)

Charter Academy of Excellence will be open to any student in grades kindergarten through five residing in Miami-Dade County. District schools in close proximity to the charter school include:

School	Student Population	% Utilization (Permanent Capacity)	% Utilization (Permanent and Relocatable Capacity)	Number of Relocatables
Edelman, G. /Sabal Palm Elem.	923	104	97	11
Fulford Elem.	722	105	93	5
Greynolds Park Elem.	1,354	144	99	15
Natural Bridge Elem.	901	175	96	21
Oak Grove Elem.	1,033	124	96	12
Ojus Elem.	905	144	115	7

Source: School Operations

Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement between the charter school and the Sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

Copies of the charter school contractual agreement will be placed on file and will be available for inspection in the School Board Members' office, in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, and in the Citizen Information Center.

RECOMMENDED: Recognizing that The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has previously approved this application, it is recommended that the Board grant approval of the:

1. proposed site; and
2. charter school contractual agreement with Nova Southeastern University, Inc., on behalf of Charter Academy of Excellence, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2003-2004 school year.

MB:dcr