

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.

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