

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO TWO
 CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA,
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM,
 ADMINISTERED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
 AGRICULTURE, TO PROVIDE BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND
 AFTERNOON SNACKS TO BABIES AND TODDLERS AT COPE
 CENTER NORTH AND DOROTHY M. WALLACE COPE CENTER
 SOUTH**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Authorization is requested to enter into two contractual agreements with the State of Florida, Department of Health, Child Care Food Program, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the agreements is to provide breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snacks to babies and toddlers at COPE (Continuing Opportunities for Purposeful Education) Center North, and Dorothy M. Wallace COPE Center South whose parent(s) are in attendance at the school sites. This is the second year the program is being operated at the above mentioned centers.

Food services are provided at no cost to babies and toddlers of public school students who qualify for free and/or reduced lunches. These services will ensure that babies and toddlers have a nutritional breakfast, lunch, and snack daily. These agreements will become effective October 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

Funding for this program will be provided by the State of Florida Department of Health, Child Care Food Program, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. The Child Care Food Program will reimburse a maximum of two meals and one snack per child, per day. Reimbursement is determined by the number of eligible enrolled participants who are served creditable meals. The current reimbursement rates are set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Each center involved will receive fifty percent of the reimbursements.

Mr. Phil Reeves is the Bureau Chief for the State Department of Health, Child Nutrition Program.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into two contractual agreements with the State of Florida, Department of Health, Child Care Food program, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, from October 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004;
2. provide breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snacks to babies and toddlers whose parents are in attendance at COPE (Continuing Opportunities for Purposeful Education) Center North and Dorothy M. Wallace COPE Center South; and
3. receive reimbursements for these services in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, of which each center will be the recipient of fifty percent of the funds issued.

GMK/CR/SLG:pr