

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer  
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION/DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TRANSITION SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AT MIAMI EDISON, MIAMI NORTHWESTERN, MIAMI JACKSON, AND BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,000**

**COMMITTEE:       EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with The Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (FDOE/DVR) to provide two vocational rehabilitation counselors who will supply transition services to a maximum of 1,263 students with disabilities at Miami Edison, Miami Northwestern, Miami Jackson, and Booker T. Washington Senior High Schools. The transition services, in an amount not to exceed \$32,000, and paid in quarterly payments of \$8,000, will be in effect from October 23, 2003 through September 30, 2004. The two vocational rehabilitation counselors are employees of the DVR; half of their salaries will be funded by DVR and the other half will be funded by Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), Division of Exceptional Student Education.

The FDOE/DVR is collaborating with school systems, universities, and other public agencies to expand and improve services for students with disabilities. The DVR is able to accomplish this task by matching non-federal school system funds one dollar for one dollar. This project will expand and improve vocational rehabilitation transition services. These services are intended to prepare students with disabilities for transition from high school to post-school activities.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 reviewed this contractual agreement on October 2, 2003, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted as the contractor is the sole source for the provision of these services.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2003-2004 Adopted Budget, Vocational Education for Students with Disabilities, Fund 0100, Function 5218, Program 6483, Object 5310, Location 9615.

**B-3**

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide two vocational rehabilitation counselors to supply vocational rehabilitation transition services to students with disabilities at Miami Edison, Miami Northwestern, Miami Jackson, and Booker T. Washington Senior High Schools, in an amount not to exceed \$32,000, in quarterly payments of \$8,000, effective October 23, 2003 through September 30, 2004; and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of 2003-2004 Adopted Budget.

RKF/BB:pbl