

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD
FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR
FUNDING THE LEARNING FOR LIFE CHARACTER EDUCATION
PROGRAM AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT
WITH LEARNING FOR LIFE, INC.**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

Conference Report on Senate Bill 2A Specific Appropriation 4C authorizes the Commissioner of Education to award grants to select school districts implementing Learning for Life Character Education Programs provided by Learning for Life, Inc.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools was invited to apply for a Learning for Life grant in the amount of \$158,000.

Authorization is being requested to accept a grant award from the Florida Department of Education in the amount of \$158,000 and to enter into a contractual agreement with Learning for Life, Inc., in the amount of \$158,000 to implement their Character Education Program. While participation in this program is voluntary, all students in grades K-6 are eligible. Schools are selected to participate in this program based on the recommendation of the ACCESS Superintendents, with preference given to D and F schools. A maximum of 25,000 students in grades K-6 at interested school sites will be selected as Learning for Life Character Education Program participants.

This program and contractual agreement have been in effect since the 1999-2000 school year. During the 2002-2003 school year, this project was funded in the amount of \$100,000.

The three specific goals of the Learning for Life Character Education Program are:

- to improve student life skills/students achievement, with a focus on reading, writing, critical thinking, and career preparation;

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- to build student character, which included the development of self-worth, self-confidence, motivation, and ethical decision-making skills; and
- to increase positive classroom behavior.

No matching funds are required as a condition to receive the grant funding.

Official notification of this grant award was received on November 25, 2003, which was after the start of the budget period. Reimbursement of grant-related expenditures is authorized effective July 1, 2003.

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

1. accept a grant award from the Florida Department of Education for funding the Learning for Life Character Education Program in the amount of \$158,000 for the grant period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004;
2. enter into a contractual agreement with the Learning for Life, Inc., in the amount of \$158,000 for the contract period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004;
3. extend this grant award and contractual agreement as authorized through official notification from the granting agency, in order to complete the goals of the program; and
4. direct Financial Affairs to establish appropriations in the amounts approved or as amended by granting agency; such appropriations to be reported periodically to The Board.

AMC:th

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BUDGET SUMMARY FORM



Yes
 No Are there any in-kind or matching funds required?
 Entitlement Grant
 Non-Entitlement/Contract

GRANT/PROGRAM NAME: Learning for Life Program

Grant Period Beginning July 1, 2003 (Date) Ending June 30, 2004 (Date)

FUNCTION	Total Budget	Salaries (51XX)	Employee Benefits (52XX)	Purchased Services (53XX)	Energy Services (54XX)	Materials and Supplies (55XX)	Capital Outlay (56XX)	Other Expense (57XX)
INSTRUCTION SERVICES	5000							
SUPPORT SERVICES:								
Pupil Personnel Services	6100							
Instructional Media Services	6200							
Instruction & Curriculum Development	6300							
Instructional Staff Training	6400							
Board of Education	7100							
General Administration	7200	*						*
School Administration	7300							
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	7400							
Fiscal Services	7500							
Food Services	7600							
Central Services	7700							
Transportation Services	7800							
Operation of Plant	7900							
Maintenance of Plant	8100							
Community Services	9100			158,000				
Debt	9200							
TOTAL INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	158,000			158,000				

*Includes Federal Indirect Costs of

Reviewed By Judith A Webb
 Division of Budget

Submitted for Board Approval/Authorization:

Agenda Item B-62 Board Meeting of December 10, 2003 (Date)