

Paul R. Philip, Chief of Staff

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO  
ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ENCOUNTERS IN  
EXCELLENCE FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS  
TO BE PROVIDED BY MAY 1, 2004**

**COMMITTEE:       EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

Encounters in Excellence is a 501(c)3 organization that provides live narrated wildlife documentary films in our schools for our students. This year's film, "August in Africa", was researched and filmed by Richard and Judy Kern, who have over 25 years of experience in the field. These filmmakers also provide the live-narrated presentations in the schools. Mr. Kern hosts all secondary presentations, and Mrs. Kern hosts the elementary school presentations. All schools are sent packages each fall and scheduling is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Teachers' guides and follow up activities are available for all teachers on the Encounters website <http://community.dadeschools.net/encounters.htm>.

This request is to provide a second contract of \$2,000 for 16 additional school presentations due to the overwhelming response this year. The schedule is available if anyone wishes to see these most enjoyable and educational presentations.

Encounters in Excellence receives funding from a number of sources including the Museum of Science and various local foundations. District funding is available in the following funding structures:

Fund: 0100   Location: 9619   Programs: 7963, 7968   Object: 5310   Function: 9100

The funds for this contract are available in the Bureau of Community and Hospitality Services.

**RECOMMENDED:**       That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Encounters in Excellence for 16 additional school presentations to be provided by May 1, 2004.