

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer  
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:           REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH HIGH/SCOPE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE TRAINING FOR TWENTY (20) CURRICULUM SUPPORT SPECIALISTS**

**COMMITTEE:       EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation to provide training for 16 Title I Prekindergarten and four Community Education Fee-Supported Prekindergarten Program curriculum support specialists, from April 16 through June 30, 2004, at a cost not to exceed \$56,940.

It is essential that curriculum support specialists are trained in the High/Scope Curriculum Lead Teacher Training Program which is implemented in the district's Title I and Community Education Fee-Supported prekindergarten classes. The High/Scope educational approach is consistent with the best practices recommended by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). It has been successfully implemented in the district's prekindergarten classes since 1988.

The High/Scope curriculum framework focuses on active learning, adult-child interaction, the daily routine, the learning environment and assessment. The goals of the program serve as a conceptual framework within which the foundation for successful learning is developed and implemented. The goals are as follows:

- enrich the language, literacy, mathematics and logic skills of the prekindergarten child;
- promote social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development;
- encourage the development of a system of support between home and school;
- provide experiences that will enhance the child's knowledge of the world around him/her; and
- develop skills that are necessary for future success in learning.

The High/Scope Educational Research Foundation is the developer and sole proprietor of the intellectual property, staff development, and materials associated with the High/Scope Educational approach.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021 reviewed this contractual agreement on March 18, 2004, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted because the contractor is the sole source for this specialized training.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund of the 2003-2004 Adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Function 5500, Program 8500, Object 5310, Location 9613 and in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) under Fund 0420, Function 5500, Program 4356, Object 5310, Locations 9613 and 9617.

The Vice President of the High/Scope Educational Foundation is Mr. A. Clay Shouse.

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation to provide training for 20 curriculum support specialists, at a cost not to exceed \$56,940; and
2. grant an exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021.

The appropriation for this item is included in the General Fund and in the Other Federal Programs Fund (Contracted Programs Fund) of the 2003-2004 Adopted Budget.

GMK/LCR:mem