

January 5, 2006

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY FISCHLER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, IN COOPERATION WITH THE FLORIDA SCHOOL CHOICE RESOURCE CENTER, TO PROVIDE APPROXIMATELY 25 DISTANCE LEARNING CLASSES FOR THE PARENT ACADEMY FROM JANUARY 18, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007; AND AUTHORIZATION IS REQUESTED TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008, PENDING SATISFACTORY PROGRAM REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested to enter into a cooperative agreement with Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Fischler School of Education and Human Services, in partnership with the Florida School Choice Resource Center to provide approximately 25 distance learning classes for The Parent Academy (TPA) from January 18, 2006, through June 30, 2007. Additionally, authorization is requested to renew this agreement through June 30, 2008, pending satisfactory program review and recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools. The purpose of the agreement is to permit NSU to develop and implement approximately 25 on-line courses or classes for The Parent Academy. The program will be managed by the Office of Community Services and The Parent Academy.

NSU will provide funding to support a Program Professor to be hired by Nova to oversee the program, the class development, and administration of the classes. The course curriculum will be jointly developed between the partners. The courses may include such topics as *How to Read to Your Child*, *Developing Writing Skills in Your Child*, *Getting Ready for FCAT*, and *Helping Your Child With Math*. The classes will be offered free to parents who register and will be available in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole. Additionally, course work offered through this program may ultimately lead to the development of certification classes or Associate-level degrees for parents.

No exchange of funds is required.

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**RECOMMENDED:**

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

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Fischler School of Education and Human Services, in cooperation with the Florida School Choice Resource Center, to provide approximately 25 distance learning classes for The Parent Academy from January 18, 2006 through June 30, 2007; and
2. to renew the cooperative agreement for an additional year, through June 30, 2008, pending satisfactory program review and recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools.

No exchange of funds is required.

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