

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SHAKE-A-
LEG MIAMI TO FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL
AND VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007, THROUGH JUNE 30,
2008**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE AND EXPAND CURRENT CURRICULUM

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with Shake-A-Leg Miami (SALM) to facilitate the operation of a Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) classroom program for students with disabilities, ages 16-22 with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities who are pursuing a special diploma, effective July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008. The purpose of this program is to provide students with educational and vocational opportunities in a marine industry setting with an environmental/ecological focus. This program will provide the support necessary for making the transition from school-to-work upon leaving M-DCPS. The program will be located at 2620 South Bayshore Drive, Miami, Florida 33133. This is a new cooperative agreement; however, M-DCPS students have participated in SALM programs and grant funded activities since 1997.

Students will continue to receive course credits toward graduation from M-DCPS while participating in marine/ecology vocational opportunities and increasing transition options. It is anticipated that 10-12 students will participate in this program. One teacher and one paraprofessional, transportation, materials, supplies and equipment, and meals will be provided by M-DCPS. Funding for this cooperative agreement will be provided by FTE generated from the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), based on students' current Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) and their current matrix funding levels.

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This program will be evaluated by administrative and support staff from the Division of Special Education. The evaluation will include a facility review, site visits, and monitoring student records and program delivery models.

The Chief Executive Officer of Shake-A-Leg Miami is Mr. Harry Horgan.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with Shake-A-Leg Miami to facilitate the provision of educational and vocational experiences for students with disabilities, effective July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008; and
2. extend the cooperative agreement for a maximum of two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

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