

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PERSONNEL
ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE EARLY CHILDHOOD
INITIATIVE FOUNDATION FOR THE RAISING A READER
PROGRAM**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

**STRATEGIC GOAL: ACTIVELY ENGAGE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS TO BECOME OUR PARTNERS IN RAISING
AND MAINTAINING HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is partnering with the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation to implement a community-wide family literacy program at up to 59 sites throughout Miami-Dade County. The project will involve multiple partners, including Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the Early Learning Coalition, The Children's Trust, United Way, the Healthy Start Coalition, Head Start, and Miami-Dade Public Libraries among others.

The Raising A Reader program provides book lending and parent skill-building for families and young children. This program extends throughout the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Ready Schools Miami/PK-3 initiative, supporting its outcomes for positive and meaningful engagement with families. Strong leadership in early childhood will be critical to the success of this community-wide undertaking.

Authorization is requested to enter into a Personnel Assignment Agreement with the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation to allow one (1) Curriculum Support Specialist to work on special assignment and serve as mentor/coach to this project. This request is being initiated by The Early Childhood Initiative Foundation; a community based educational organization whose mission is to improve the quality of education and educational services for children and their families in Miami-Dade County.

M-DCPS has previously authorized similar agreements with Miami-Dade Department of Human Resources/Head Start and the Early Learning Coalition to provide educational services to children and their families.

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This agreement will be effective from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, with the expectation of summer employment for the month of June 2007. The Early Childhood Initiative Foundation will provide full reimbursement for the salary and fringe benefits to Miami-Dade County Public Schools in an amount equal to the salary and benefits of the assigned personnel, per annum. Salary and fringe benefits amounts are contingent upon prevailing collective bargaining agreements with the United Teachers of Dade and/or any additional fringe benefits that may be negotiated. There is no cost to the District, and no matching funds are required as a condition to receive this funding.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Personnel Assignment Agreement with the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation for the assignment of one (1) Curriculum Support Specialist (CSS) to serve as mentor/coach for the Raising A Reader program from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008, including summer June 2007.

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