

MEMORANDUM

August 30, 2007

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County

FROM: Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools *RFC*

SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF AGENDA ITEM C-25 - AUTHORIZATION IS REQUESTED FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND SCIENTIFIC LEARNING TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES TO 40 SCHOOL SITES IMPLEMENTING FAST FORWARD AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$290,500

Staff has recommended that Board Item C-25 be withdrawn from the September 5, 2007, School Board Meeting Agenda. It is anticipated that the item will be submitted for Board consideration at a future meeting.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, at 305-995-1451.

RFC:AD/cf
M336

cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Cabinet
Dr. Lourdes C. Rovira



Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION IS REQUESTED FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND SCIENTIFIC LEARNING TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING AND CONSULTATIVE SERVICES TO 40 SCHOOL SITES IMPLEMENTING FAST FORWARD AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$290,500

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: ENSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS BY ALL STUDENTS

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to negotiate and enter into a contractual agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Scientific Learning to provide on-site Fast ForWord training and consulting services to 40 school sites from September 6, 2007, through September 5, 2008, at a cost not to exceed \$290,500. Scientific Learning is the developer of Fast ForWord products and technology-based instructional tools that are geared toward cognitive skills development and are based on over 30 years of scientific research into the way the brain learns. Their products have proven to be effective reading intervention tools that accelerate the learning process and are currently being implemented in 30 school sites in the District.

These services will include management, support and services for 40 school sites, 10 which are new site agreements in support of the Highways to Success Initiative, and 30 which are renewal agreements of existing school sites. The support and services include certification training for District staff to build internal capacity to provide training and program management in subsequent years, modeling, and coaching for new District trainers, and 30 full days of comprehensive teacher training on the understanding and implementation of Fast ForWord products and technology-based tools.

**WITHDRAWN
August 30, 2007
C-25**

The proposed contract with Scientific Learning was submitted for review to the Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021 on August 16, 2007, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Requests for Proposals be granted on the basis of sole source.

As the contractual services agreement provides for certification of training of District staff to provide professional development and program management in subsequent years, this action will build capacity for supporting and sustaining professional development for the continued implementation of Fast ForWord. The funds for the contract are included in the General Funds of the 2007-2008 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in September 2007, under the following structure: Fund 0100, Object 5310, Program 8947, Location 9702, Function 5102.

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

1. grant an exception pursuant to School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021, related to Requests for Proposals on the basis of Sole Source; and
2. negotiate and enter into a contractual services agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Scientific Learning to provide on-site Fast ForWord training and consulting services to 40 school sites from September 6, 2007, through September 5, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$290,500.

LCR/FW/SG:jc