

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF SOMERSET ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL (COUNTRY PALMS)

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, stipulates that a charter school contractual agreement may be modified during its initial term or any renewal term upon the recommendation of the sponsor and the approval of both parties to the agreement.

The initial charter school contractual agreement for Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy Middle School (Country Palms) was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida (The School Board), on June 14, 2006, for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2007-2008 school year. Pursuant to Section 8 of School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.471, Charter Schools (K-12), Country Palms deferred the opening of the school until the 2008-2009 school year.

Country Palms proposed to open at 12425 SW 248 Street, Homestead, Florida 33032; however, until the construction at this site is completed, the charter school has requested a first amendment to the charter school contractual agreement to include a temporary location at 18491 SW 134 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33177, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year. Country Palms, will serve a maximum of 600 students in grades six through eight.

Section 7(b) of School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.471, Charter Schools (K-12), stipulates that charter school contractual agreements that fully conform to the approved Standard Charter School Contract do not require review and recommendation by the Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) and can be forwarded directly to the School Board for consideration.

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Copies of the amendment to charter school contractual agreement will be transmitted to the School Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the first amendment to the contract with Somerset Academy, Inc., on behalf of Somerset Academy Middle School (Country Palms) to include a temporary location at 18491 SW 134 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33177, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year until construction at the permanent site is completed.

MB/EOW/TP:elg