

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent
School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH MATER ACADEMY, INC., ON BEHALF OF MATER ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, Charter Schools, requires that the major issues involved in the operation of charter schools be considered in advance and written into a charter school contractual agreement, between the charter school and the sponsor, following a public hearing to ensure community input.

On December 19, 2007, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approved a charter school application submitted for Mater Academy of International Studies (Mater International) and authorized the Superintendent to negotiate a charter school contractual agreement with the applicant for a term of ten years.

Mater International will be temporarily located at 450 SW Fourth Street, Miami, Florida 33130, and will serve a maximum of 480 students in kindergarten through grade five, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year. The school will relocate upon completion of the school's permanent facility which will be constructed on the 3600 Block of Grand Avenue, Miami. The term of the contract shall be for ten years, ending on June 30, 2018.

The Governing Board of the charter school is comprised of the following members: Mr. Antonio L. Roca, Attorney, Roca Gonzalez, P.A.; Mr. Roberto C. Blanch, Attorney, Law Firm of Siegfried, Rivera, Lerner, De La Torre & Sobel, P.A.; Mr. Juan A. Garcia, Senior Accountant Manager, Hotwire Communications; and Ms. Shannine Sadesky, Principal, Somerset Academy Elementary School (Miramar). This Governing Board currently operates 11 charter schools in Miami-Dade County.

On May 22, 2008, the Contract Review Committee (CRC) met, and by a unanimous vote, made a recommendation for approval of the charter school contractual agreement with Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy of International Studies.

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Copies of the 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 charter school contractual agreement with Mater Academy, Inc., on behalf of Mater Academy of International Studies for a term of ten years, commencing with the 2008-2009 school year and ending on June 30, 2018.

MB/EOW/TP:elg