

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent
School Operations

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ACCEPT A DONATION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
\$250,000, FROM THE MIAMI HEAT, TO CONTINUE OPERATING
AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM ENTITLED *THE HEAT
ACADEMY* AT PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR, LITTLE RIVER,
AND RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT
AND STRATEGIC GOAL: IMPROVE AND EXPAND CURRENT COMMUNITY
EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

The Miami HEAT seeks to continue to operate an after-school academic program which will assist children by providing tutoring and enrichment in reading and mathematics. Using the popularity of professional sports, *The Miami HEAT* will continue to utilize the *HEAT* name to motivate students to stay in the classroom and, just as in sports, encourage practicing the fundamentals of learning. The program has been in operation since 1999 at Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School and in the past few years has expanded to include Little River and Riverside Elementary Schools.

The Miami HEAT will make a donation, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, to Miami-Dade County Public Schools to operate *The HEAT Academy*. The program at Riverside Elementary School will run five days a week for two hours a day, the program at Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School will run five days a week for one and a half hours per day, and the program at Little River Elementary School will run four days a week for one and a half hours per day. The program is free for select students at each school. The students are selected through a random lottery. Funds received for the after-school academic program will provide: salaries for teachers and teacher aides, curriculum materials, supplies, and security and custodial services at each school.

The HEAT Academy will offer additional enhancements, such as motivational speakers, incentives, and appreciation events. Parental involvement opportunities will be implemented and encouraged. All procedures, as outlined in the *Community Schools Procedures Manual*, will be followed in implementing the program.

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The elementary schools were selected by *The Miami HEAT*, based upon tutorial needs, as established by FCAT scores. In addition, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Little River, and Riverside Elementary Schools were chosen due to the diversity in their student populations.

There are no additional costs associated with this program since administration is provided by the existing community school funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to accept a donation, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, from *The Miami HEAT* to continue operating an after-school academic program, entitled, *The HEAT Academy*, at Paul Laurence Dunbar, Little River, and Riverside Elementary Schools during the 2008-2009 school year.

FW/NJP:vf