

Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Assistant Superintendent
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A LETTER OF AGREEMENT AND ACCEPT IN-KIND RESOURCES FROM ECOMEDIA FOR GREEN PROJECTS AT MIAMI NORTHWESTERN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF GRANT DOLLARS

Authorization is requested to enter into a Letter of Agreement and accept in-kind resources valued at approximately \$250,000 for green projects at Miami Northwestern Senior High School (Northwestern) for the project period of October 1, 2008, through June 4, 2009. As a result of the relationship between the District and the City of Miami via the Education Compact, all schools within the City of Miami were given the opportunity to submit a proposal to EcoMedia for the "Green My Schools Challenge" by responding to the question, "What does it mean to be green?". This challenge was brought forth as an expanded activity of the Education Compact focused on the development of joint green policies. Seven out of all 52 schools within the City of Miami submitted student-generated proposals, and Northwestern was selected as the grand prize winner by a committee consisting of members of EcoMedia's Advisory Board that includes U.S. Green Building Council, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, EPA/Energy Star, Waterkeeper Alliance, as well as city, school district and corporate representation. The project will be managed by the Office of Facilities and District/School Operations and supports the District's goal to help develop our students so they are able to successfully compete in the global economy.

The school-wide project may include energy efficient lighting, solar and wind projects, a green roof, and internal and external green upgrades funded by EcoMedia sustainable media partnerships. Projects will address water efficiency, energy conservation, development of sustainable sites, and establishing environmentally responsible daily practices. The principles implemented are aligned with the development of high performance school design and other green design criteria such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

C-80

No matching funds are required as a condition to receive the in-kind resources and services linked to the green projects. The District was notified of this award by EcoMedia October 1, 2008.

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

1. enter into a Letter of Agreement and accept in-kind resources from EcoMedia for green projects, valued at approximately \$250,000, at Miami Northwestern Senior High School for the project period of October 1, 2008, through June 4, 2009; and
2. extend this Letter of Agreement as authorized through official notification for the granting agency in order to complete the goals of the program.

IRM-C:ms

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