

Milagros R. Fornell, Associate Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SELECTED BUSINESS SITES TO FACILITATE THE OPERATION OF PROJECT VICTORY SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 6, 2009, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: DEVELOP OUR STUDENTS SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a cooperative agreement with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory School-to-Work programs for students with disabilities, from August 6, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Project Victory, which has been in effect since 1986, is designed for senior high school students with disabilities who are pursuing special diplomas. The program is for students age 16 -22 and involves non-paid work experiences at selected community businesses. Students receive course credits in employability skills while participating in a half-day teacher-directed field experience at selected business sites throughout the District.

During the 2008-2009 school year, students with disabilities from 36 senior high schools and educational centers participated at 20 Project Victory business sites as part of this School-to-Work program. Five additional business sites will be added for the 2009-2010 school year. Additional business sites may be added, as needed.

These programs are evaluated by administrative and support staff from the Division of Special Education. The evaluations include site visits and monitoring student records and program delivery models.

There is no exchange of funds.

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

1. Enter into a cooperative agreement with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory School-to-Work programs for students with disabilities, effective August 6, 2009, through June 30, 2010;
2. Add additional business sites as needed; and
3. Extend the cooperative agreements for a maximum of two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

LCR/WG/las