

Freddie Woodson, Deputy Superintendent
District/School Operations

SUBJECT: REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH LIFE SKILLS CENTER DADE COUNTY, INC., ON BEHALF OF LIFE SKILLS CENTER MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Section 1002.33(7)17(b)(1), Florida Statute, Charter Schools, stipulates that a charter school contractual agreement may be renewed provided that a program review demonstrates that the school has met the criteria in its charter contract and that the grounds for non-renewal have not been documented.

The initial charter school contractual agreement for Life Skills Center Dade County, Inc., on behalf of Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County (LSC Miami-Dade), was approved by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida (The School Board), on June 15, 2005, for a term of five years, commencing with the 2005-2006 school year, and expiring on June 30, 2010. Subsequent action was granted by The School Board to relocate to a facility located at 7900 N.W. 27 Avenue, Suite #F-20, Miami, Florida 33147, commencing with the 2010-2011 school year. LSC Miami-Dade is currently located at 3555 N.W. Seventh Street, Miami, Florida 33127, and serves approximately 258 students in grades nine through twelve. The school is managed by White Hat Management.

LSC Miami-Dade is not eligible to be graded under Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability as it meets the definition of an alternative school and has elected not to receive a school grade but instead receive a school improvement rating, pursuant to Section 1008.341, Florida Statutes.

LSC Miami-Dade's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009, show the school to be in a very strong financial position, and the external auditor found no inaccuracies, irregularities and/or violations of laws, regulations or contractual provisions. Additionally, the school has not met any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes related to Financial Emergency.

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The Charter School Contract Review Committee (CRC) met on December 4, 2009, and by a unanimous vote made a recommendation for approval of the renewal of the charter school contractual agreement with Life Skills Center Dade County, Inc., on behalf of Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County for a period of five years, ending June 30, 2015.

Copies of the renewal to 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 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the renewal contract with Life Skills Dade County, Inc., on behalf of Life Skills Center Miami-Dade County, for a term of five years, commencing with the 2010-2011 school year, and ending on June 30, 2015.

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