

Milagros R. Fornell, Associate Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE  
AGREEMENTS WITH SELECTED BUSINESS SITES TO  
FACILITATE THE OPERATION OF PROJECT VICTORY  
SCHOOL-TO-WORK PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH  
DISABILITIES, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2012, THROUGH JUNE  
30, 2015**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN:        EDUCATION**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to enter into cooperative agreements with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory School-to-Work programs for students with disabilities, from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

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 2011-2012 school year, students with disabilities from 40 senior high schools and educational centers participated at 18 Project Victory business sites as part of this School-to-Work program. Additional business sites may be added, as needed.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) will provide teachers and paraprofessionals, instructional materials, equipment and supplies. The business sites, along with their partners, will provide the worksites and support from their employees at the training sites.

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.

**C-1**

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

1. enter into cooperative agreements with selected business sites to facilitate the operation of Project Victory School-to-Work programs for students with disabilities, effective July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015; and
2. add additional business sites as needed.

MRF/las