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**SUBJECT:                   REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THREE COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$452,547, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014, CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2013-2014 DISTRICT BUDGET**

**COMMITTEE:               INSTRUCTIONAL       EXCELLENCE       AND       COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:               EDUCATION**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to enter into contractual agreements with three community agencies that have specific expertise in providing educational and vocational training services to a unique population of students with disabilities (SWD) which includes: autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, and emotional/behavioral disabilities.

This unique population of SWD will receive educational and vocational training in an age-appropriate environment to include, but not limited to, classroom instruction, on-the-job-training, job coaching services, job placement assistance, community-based instruction, and post-school living skills. Students are provided with a variety of employability skills and training including packaging, sorting, collating, assembly skills, basic clerical skills, and culinary skills in a workshop environment.

Funding for services provided by each community agency is delineated below:

<b>Agency</b>	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Exceptional Development Corporation of South Florida (EDC)	A maximum of 24 students between the ages of 18-22	In an amount not to exceed \$204,927
Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc., (Goodwill)	A maximum of 24 students between the ages of 18-22	In an amount not to exceed \$204,927
Sunrise Community, Inc., (Sunrise-Doral)	A maximum of 5 students between the ages of 18-22	In an amount not to exceed \$42,693

These programs were evaluated by administrative and support staff from the Division of Exceptional Student Education. The evaluations, including facility reviews, site visits, monitoring student records and program delivery models, found these programs to be effective in providing educational and vocational services and to be in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.

The Professional Services Contract Committee, established by School Board Policy 6320, reviewed these contracts on May 23, 2013, and recommended that an exception to the School Board Policy regarding bids or Request for Proposals (RFP) be granted, as these agencies have specific expertise in providing educational and vocational training services.

Funding for these services will be generated by 80% of the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) generated from the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) based on the students' current Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) and their current matrix funding levels during each FTE Survey Period, effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. The remaining 20% of the FTE will cover ancillary costs.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2013-2014 Tentative Budget under Fund 100000, Funds Center 1973100, Commitment Item 531000, and Functional Area 68400000-521700, to be recommended for adoption in July 2013, contingent upon the approval of the 2013-2014 District Budget.

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

1. enter into contractual agreements with three community agencies to provide educational and vocational training services to students with disabilities, in an amount not to exceed \$452,547, effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, contingent upon approval of the 2013-2014 District Budget with:
  - Exceptional Development Corporation of South Florida (EDC), in an amount not to exceed \$204,927;
  - Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc., (Goodwill), in an amount not to exceed \$204,927;
  - Sunrise Community, Inc., (Sunrise -Doral), in an amount not to exceed \$42,693; and
2. grant an exception pursuant to School Board Policy 6320, based on specific expertise.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2013-2014 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2013, contingent upon approval of the 2013-2014 District Budget.

MRF/jf