

Office of School Facilities
Jaime G. Torrens, Chief Facilities Officer

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO:

- 1) FINALIZE NEGOTIATIONS AND EXECUTE A TEMPORARY USE PERMIT WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO ALLOW THE DISTRICT TO CONTINUE UTILIZING FACILITIES AT ZOO MIAMI FOR THE OPERATION OF THE SCIENCE/ZOO MAGNET PROGRAM BY RICHMOND HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL; AND
- 2) GRANT OR DENY ALL APPROVALS REQUIRED UNDER THE TEMPORARY USE PERMIT, INCLUDING RENEWING, EXTENDING, CANCELLING OR TERMINATING THE TEMPORARY USE PERMIT

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION REFORM

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY

Background

Since 1988, the District has utilized four (4) portable classrooms ("Portables") at the Zoo Miami facility ("Zoo"), pursuant to a Joint Operating Agreement ("Existing Agreement") with Miami-Dade County ("County"), as part of the Science/Zoo Magnet Program at Richmond Heights Middle School ("Magnet Program"). The Portables are located at the edge of the Zoo parking lot, near the main entrance, and provide on-site classroom and laboratory facilities, which are used in conjunction with behind the scene tours of Zoo operations, interactive learning experiences and lectures/demonstrations from Zoo personnel. The current term of the Existing Agreement expires on May 31, 2014.

The County has advised the District that, as part of any extension of the Existing Agreement beyond May 31, 2014, the District will be required to relocate the Portables from their current location, to an alternate site within the Zoo facility, at the District's expense. In addition, the District recently accepted a grant award, which provides operating funds for the expansion of the Magnet Program at the Zoo, to include a high school component ("6-12 Magnet Program"). This would require the installation of additional portable classrooms at the Zoo to accommodate both the middle school and high school magnet programs.

Accordingly, due to the need to coordinate the relocation/addition of Portables within the Zoo to facilitate the operation of the 6-12 Magnet Program, it will be necessary for the

parties to enter into a new joint use agreement. In order to allow the District to continue operating the Magnet Program at the current location at the Zoo while the new joint use agreement ("New Agreement") is developed and finalized, and the new facilities are constructed, the County has expressed a willingness to enter into a temporary use permit ("Permit") with the District to allow continued use by the Magnet Program of the existing Portables at the current location, through December 31, 2014. The proposed Permit will terminate effective with the commencement of the New Agreement. In the meantime, District and County staff will work collaboratively in developing the New Agreement, and a follow-up item with the proposed terms and conditions of the New Agreement, will be submitted to the Board for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Permit

The proposed Permit with the County shall contain, substantially, the following terms and conditions:

- a term commencing June 1, 2014;
- the Permit shall terminate effective with the commencement of the New Agreement, but in no event later than December 31, 2014, unless further extended by the parties;
- the Board shall have the right to continue operating the Magnet Program within the Portables at their current location on the Zoo property at all times throughout the term of the Permit;
- the rental rate for placement of the four Board-owned Portables on Zoo grounds will continue to be \$1 per year;
- the Magnet Program will continue to provide funds to the Zoo to cover access to the grounds and exhibits by Magnet Program students, based on the rates established in the Existing Agreement;
- the District shall continue to reimburse the County for utility costs for the operation of the Portables; and
- the Superintendent of Schools shall be the party designated by the Board to grant or deny all approvals required by this Permit, including renewing, terminating or canceling the Permit.

The Permit will be reviewed by the School Board Attorney's Office and the Office of Risk and Benefits Management prior to execution. The Region Superintendent, South Region Office and the Administrative Director of Schools of Choice and Parental Options concur with the Permit.

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

- 1) finalize negotiations and execute a temporary use permit with Miami-Dade County to allow the District to continue utilizing facilities at Zoo Miami for the operation of the Science/Zoo Magnet Program by Richmond Heights Middle School under, substantially, the terms and conditions noted above; and
- 2) grant or deny all approvals required under the temporary use permit, including renewing, extending, cancelling or terminating the temporary use permit.

MCA:mca