

Valtena G. Brown, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer  
School Operations

**SUBJECT:       REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CRITICAL ELEMENTS, LLC, TO PROVIDE AN ONLINE SYSTEM THAT WILL SUPPORT THE MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$67,712.00, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 8, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015**

**COMMITTEE:    INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a contractual agreement with Critical Elements, LLC, to provide an online system that will support the monitoring and compliance of charter schools. Critical Elements, LLC, will provide services in an amount not to exceed \$67,712.00. Payment will consist of two partial payments each in the amount of \$33,856.00. The first payment will be due no later than January 30, 2015 and the second due no later than June 30, 2015.

The Charter Schools Compliance Management System (CSCMS) has been in use by Charter School Support since November 2005. The use of the CSCMS is authorized by Board Policy 9800, *Charter Schools*. Critical Elements, LLC, the parent company and vendor, will no longer support CSCMS. The vendor has migrated the system to run on new infrastructure software, Charter Tools, and provide additional tools to assist in the review and evaluation of charter school applications.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Policy 5320, *Purchasing*, reviewed the contract on September 18, 2014, and recommended that the exception to School Board Policy 6320, *Purchasing* regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted as Critical Elements, LLC, is the sole source provider and has specific expertise in providing a service that will allow the office of Charter School Support to monitor and ensure compliance of the 128 charter schools currently operating in Miami-Dade County. The School Board of Miami-Dade County Public Schools acts as the Sponsor for all charter schools.

Funding for these services will be generated by the administrative fees collected from charter schools, pursuant to §1002.33 (20), and will be effective October 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The appropriation of this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2014-2015 Budget, under Fund: 100000; Funds Center: 1963200; Object: 569000; Program 99780000; and Function 630000, to be recommended for adoption in July 2014.

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

1. enter into a contractual agreement with Critical Elements, LLC, to provide services, in an amount not to exceed \$67,712.00, effective October 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015; and
2. grant an exception of School Board Policy 6320, *Purchasing*, based on Critical Elements, LLC's being the sole source provider and its expertise in providing a service that will allow the office of Charter School Support to monitor and ensure compliance of 128 charter schools currently operating.

The appropriation for this item has been included in the General Fund of the 2014-2015 Budget.