

Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer
Academics and Transformation

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AND PUBLIC CONSULTANT GROUP, SPECIAL EDUCATION ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SPED-EMS) IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$782,500 EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 30, 2014, UP TO OCTOBER 1, 2015

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COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: IMPROVE AND EXPAND STUDENT SERVICES

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to renew the contractual agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG) beginning on September 30, 2014, up to October 1, 2015. During this period, exploration for information on options for electronic special education management systems will be obtained through a Request for Information (RFI) process to be initiated immediately.

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The initial contract was approved by the Board at its August 5, 2009, meeting. The contract was initiated in response to Request for Proposals No. 106-JJ10 – SPECIAL EDUCATION – ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SPED-EMS). SPED-EMS is an internet based special education data management system for students' Individual Educational Plan (IEP), Matrix of Services, Educational Plan (EP), and 504 Plan. The system also serves as the M-DCPS Cost Review Agent for Fee-For-Service under the Medicaid Certified School Match Program, which must adhere to state and federal guidelines pertaining to special education and Medicaid recovery. SPED-EMS houses all documents required by the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) and it assists administrators and instructional personnel in meeting reporting requirements.

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The Professional Services Contract Committee, established by School Board Policy 6320, reviewed the contract on September 18, 2014, and recommended that an

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exception to the School Board Policy regarding bids or Request for Proposals be granted, as PCG has customized the management system for M-DCPS and has specific expertise in the workings of this system.

The contract renewal fee of \$782,500 covers the annual licensing and hosting costs for the 2014-2015 school year, with no further development planned. This sum also includes coverage for up to \$300,000 for ongoing service as the cost Review Agent for the Fee-For-Service Certified Medicaid School Match program. The recurring costs for licensing and hosting set forth in the original contract were \$865,000 per year. Through negotiations with PCG, these costs have been reduced to \$482,500 for a cost savings of \$382,500. Funding for these services will be paid as follows \$300,000 through the General Fund of the 2014-2015 Budget under Fund 420000, Location 1973100, Program 33710000, Function 520000, Object 531000 and \$482,500 through Federal Entitlement Grant Funds (IDEA).

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

1. renew the contractual services agreement with Public Consultant Group, Special Education Electronic Management System (SPED-EMS) in an amount not to exceed \$782,500 effective September 30, 2014, up to October 1, 2015; and
2. grant an exception pursuant to School Board Policy 6320 based on specific expertise.
3. Authorize the Request for Information (RFI) process to be initiated immediately, for exploration of options for electronic special education management systems.

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The appropriation for this item will be paid through the General Fund of the 2014-2015 Budget (\$300,000) and (\$482,500) through Federal Entitlement Grant Funds (IDEA).

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