

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

SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO PURSUE THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ALIGNED WITH THE FASHION INDUSTRY THROUGH A POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP WITH NKMIA, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, IN CONNECTION WITH A PROPOSED FASHION AND DESIGN COMPLEX TO BE LOCATED ON COUNTY-OWNED LAND, AT 1175 N.W. SOUTH RIVER DRIVE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

Introduction

Naeem Khan, principal designer and owner of the fashion brand currently located in New York City, has entered into a lease agreement with Miami-Dade County ("County") as NKMIA, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (NKMIA), for County-owned property located at 1175 N.W. South River Drive, Miami ("Site"), with the purpose of using the location as NKMIA's fashion and design headquarters. As part of the lease with the County, NKMIA has committed, among other items, to construct a minimum of 30,000 sq. ft. to house fashion related activities ("fashion headquarter") and to create a minimum of fifty (50) new skilled full-time jobs for County residents.

Additional Information

Mr. Khan recently approached the District to gauge its interest in establishing an educational presence on the Site, in a +/- 20,000-25,000 sq. ft. building ("school") to be designed and built for that purpose by NKMIA and made available to the Board under mutually agreeable terms and conditions; the school would be located on the Site adjacent to the proposed fashion headquarter. The overarching vision is that the adjacency of the two uses would create the kind of learning/practice synergy not available anywhere else in the county, perhaps even the country, and where a cutting edge educational learning approach would serve as a creativity incubator along many different fashion platforms. Among them:

- the integration of high level technology in fashion design and production, including fashion and jewelry design, illustration and computer modeling;

- pattern making, textiles and color theory;
- fashion entrepreneurship, such as business development, branding, merchandising and marketing; and
- the art of product placement and associated business and financial aspects

Mr. Khan's on-site presence and deep connections to the fashion world, including opportunities for executive internships for schools with emerging and novice programs, would add an extraordinary dimension to the learning experience and enable a variety of students and faculty to be exposed to the theoretical and practical aspects of the fashion industry in a living lab environment. It is envisioned that if the Board approves further pursuing this collaboration, and the negotiation of mutually acceptable terms and conditions yields positive results, the educational facility could house between 200 and 250 students. Additional exploration of how the many facets of the curriculum would interface and build upon the existing strands would also need to be further explored.

RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to pursue the development of additional educational opportunities aligned with the fashion industry through a possible partnership with NKMIA, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, in connection with a proposed fashion and design complex to be located on County-owned land, at 1175 N.W. South River Drive, Miami, Florida 33136.

JGT:arc