

Financial Services

Ms. Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF WITHDRAWAL OF UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL – THE MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS, INC. & MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BANYAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZATION TO REFUND APPLICATION FEE

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL PRACTICES

This item requests the School Board's approval of the actions recommended below:

UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL – THE MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS, INC. & MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BANYAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY

On March 4, 2026, the Marist Brothers of the Schools, Inc. ("Marist Brothers"), as the owner of Christopher Columbus High School, submitted an unsolicited proposal, which was subsequently revised and re-submitted on May 21, 2026, for approval as a qualifying project with The School Board of Miami-Dade County in accordance with F.S. 255.065 and School Board Policy 6327. Under the unsolicited proposal, Marist Brothers proposed purchasing the School Board-owned Banyan Elementary School property at fair market value or structuring a long-term lease of the site. The proposal contemplated demolition of the existing District school facilities and the subsequent design and construction of new educational and athletic facilities, including an aquatic center, at Marist Brothers' expense, for use by Marist Brothers for educational and recreational purposes. Marist Brothers also committed to work with the School Board to allow the District access and use of the aquatic center facilities. Pursuant to School Board Policy 6327, the acceptance of an unsolicited proposal as a qualifying project requires issuing a public solicitation with the terms proffered by said proposal.

However, following an internal District review and Selection Committee meeting, the District considered Marist Brothers' proposal and determined that the proposal was not feasible, not in the best interest of the District, and required further review, given that Banyan Elementary School is an active District school. As a result of the review by the Selection Committee and District staff, this unsolicited proposal was originally recommended for rejection because the proposed use of the site by Marist Brothers is not feasible given the ongoing operation of the site as a District school. Subsequently, on October 13, 2026, Marist Brothers notified the District that it desires to voluntarily withdraw its unsolicited proposal. Accordingly, this item requests that the School Board accept Marist Brothers' withdrawal and direct the Superintendent of Schools to refund the unsolicited proposal application fee paid by Marist Brothers in accordance with the provisions of Policy 6327.

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**REVISED
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RECOMMENDED:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. Accept the request to voluntarily withdraw the UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL – THE MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS, INC. & MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BANYAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROPERTY; and
2. Authorize the Superintendent to refund the unsolicited proposal application fee paid by THE MARIST BROTHERS OF THE SCHOOLS, INC., in accordance with the provisions of Policy 6327.

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