

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 18, 2003

SUBJECT: Request to Lift the Statutorily Imposed Cap on Charter Schools for Select Applicants in Miami-Dade County

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve the Request to Lift the Statutorily Imposed Cap on Charter Schools for Select Applicants in Miami-Dade County.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.33 (13) (c), Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Miami-Dade County requests that the cap on charter schools, determined by the student population, be lifted for select charter school applicants. These applicants were selected by their ability to address the statutorily-defined purpose of charter schools, with weighted emphasis on the following three criteria:

- Increase learning opportunities for all students, with special emphasis on expanded learning experiences for students who are identified as academically low achieving;
- Improve student learning through the use of innovative instructional approaches; and
- Expand the capacity of the public school system by establishing charter schools in areas that the District has determined to be overcrowded and at sites that have been mutually agreed upon by both the applicant and the District.

This collaborative effort between Miami-Dade County and the select applicants reflects a proactive attempt to address the needs of all stakeholders and increase public school choice. Miami-Dade County recognizes that applicants retain the right to request a waiver directly from the Florida Board of Education.

Supporting Documentation Included:

Letter from Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Facilitators/Presenters:

Dr. Carlo Rodriguez
Director, Schools of Choice
Miami-Dade County