

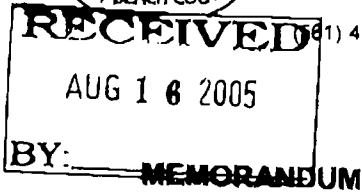
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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SUPERINTENDENT

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August 15, 2005

TO: Sharon Swan, Director
Purchasing Department

Michelle Martin, Technician
Purchasing Department

FROM: Russell Feldman, Executive Director
Exceptional Student Education 

SUBJECT: Confirming Contract with Educational Based Services, Inc.

Currently, the District holds RFPs with three vendors for speech/language services. These services are used to provide evaluations and services to pre-kindergarten students in contract sites. The District continues to have a vacancy for a bilingual speech/language pathologist with no strong candidates eligible for hire. This is consistent with a nationwide shortage of speech/language professionals.

The three vendors were contacted and requested to provide staff to fill the full-time bilingual vacancy in the west area. None were able to provide full-time staff for this purpose. Educational Based Services, Inc. (EBS) was able to commit to providing a bilingual speech-language pathologist. Karen Brazier, Purchasing Agent, supported use of an outside vendor because the current RFP vendors have not been able to provide full time staff for requests from the 2005-06 school years.

A confirming contract is needed because services to students must begin as soon as possible and the next Board meeting is not until September. Services began to students in the west area this week. A short-term contract will not cover the cost of this position.

The contract speech/language pathologist will submit monthly time sheets, approved by the school based administrator, to Julia Jackson, Program Planner for speech, language and deaf/hard of hearing. These time sheets will be used to verify the incoming invoice from EBS. Please contact Julia Jackson at PX 48066 if you have any questions.

AK:JSC:RF:JJ:md/M6012/05-06

c: Janice S. Cover
Julia Jackson
Karen Brazier
Sue Alex