

## **District School Board of Pasco County**

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Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent

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## <u>M E M O R A N D U M</u>

TO: Honorable School Board Members

- **FROM:** Kendra Goodman, CPPB, Purchasing Agent
- SUBJECT: Negotiated Contract: Columbus Educational Services Agreement for Speech/Language Pathologists for the Exceptional Student Education Department (ESE)

On March 4, 2008, official action (attached) was taken to permit negotiation of a new contract with Columbus Educational Services. The District entered into its original contract with Columbus in 2005 to address its serious shortage of Speech/Language Pathologists (S/LPs). The contract currently in place will expire on July 4, 2008. ESE considers the services of Columbus and its employees to be satisfactory.

Since March, negotiations have taken place with Mr. Donald Mooney, Executive Vice President of Columbus. Columbus has agreed to honor the terms and conditions of the 2005 contract, as amended June 19, 2007, with additional changes outlined in Attachment 2 (entire contract attached as reference). The term of this contract will be July 5, 2008 – July 4, 2009. Please see the attached memo from Ms. Monica Verra, Director of ESE, for further information.

Anticipated expenditures in 2008-09 could be as high as \$870,000, but there is no cost to the Board until an SL/P is accepted by ESE and is performing work for the District. Funding will be provided through general funds, and IDEA, Part B grant funds.

To ensure continuity of services for our students, we request Board approval of Attachment 2 with Columbus Educational Services. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Monica Verra or me at your earliest convenience.

KDG/az Attachments