

SMALLBUSINESS/ WOMEN/MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION

Code **DJBB** Issued **8/05**

Purpose: To establish the board's vision and the basic structure for the participation of small/women/minority businesses in the procurements of Charleston County School District.

Small/Women/Minority business enterprise participation

~~The South Carolina General Assembly has declared that business firms owned and operated by minority persons have been historically restricted from full participation in our free enterprise system to a degree disproportionate to other businesses, and the board concurs in that finding by the state. In recent years, the participation by minority businesses in the procurements of Charleston County School District has been well below the expected participation by this segment of our society.~~ The board believes that it is in the district's best interest to assist minority-owned businesses to develop fully as a part of the district's policies and programs encouraging minority participation in the procurement of goods and services by the district. The board, therefore, wishes to ensure that those businesses owned and operated by minorities are afforded the opportunity to fully participate in the overall procurement process of Charleston County School District.

The superintendent or his/her designee shall establish regulations designed to increase contract opportunities for small and women/minority business enterprises as assessed each year based on both percentage of contract dollars awarded and as a percentage of all contracts awarded. A report shall be made annually to the board about those results. The increase of opportunity is expected to affect the awarding of contracts and subcontracts to these businesses which shall, in turn, provide an equal business opportunity and then foster overall economic development within the district, county and state. The established regulations shall include specific annual goals to measure performance and the systematic reporting of progress towards these goals.

Adopted 1/14/02; Revised 8/8/05