ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT
SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SCHOOL BOARD REPORT
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022
Regular School Board Meeting

Good morning, Superintendent Cartwright, Chair Alston, Board Members, and staff. My name is Carolyn Jones, and this report is on behalf of the Small Business Advisory Committee, also known as SBAC, managed by the Economic Development & Diversity Compliance Department. First, Mr. Chair, we would like to welcome you, and Board Members Tyan, Reiter, and Serrano to the Broward School Board. We look forward to your leadership in this capacity as you serve the children, parents, staff and community of Broward County.

At the August 25th meeting, we welcomed two new committee members. Gino Perez-Ferrari, Owner of *Aqui Bar & Backyard* is the District 1 appointee, and Brian Farrell, Owner of *Phone and Pad Warehouse* is a Member-At-Large approved by SBAC.

We continued with School Board Member updates and learned from immediate past SBAC Chair, Carlton Crawl, that Miami Dade County Public Schools has now adopted the Alyssa's Alert App to advance safety operations in the District. And, we applaud them for that.
Our SBAC meeting primarily focused on EDDC's FY2022-2023 Action Plan. Mr. Ballou walked us through the goals and objectives which include the following initiatives:

- *1. Disparity Study Update*

Initiate and conduct an eight-milestone, comprehensive, legally defensible disparity study of the District's procurement practices. The study will consist of a thorough statistical analysis of contracting expenditures across all District commodity areas and will evaluate the economic marketplace to determine if disparity is impacting minority and women-owned firms. Once the contract is approved, milestones 1-4 will be completed this year, and EDDC will provide monthly updates to SBAC.

- *2. South Florida Anchor Alliance (SFAA) Marketplace Pilot*

The alliance consists of governmental procurement organizations, in Broward and Dade, working together under a grant from the Health Foundation to simplify our procurements; local supplier outreach and bid notifications onto one common platform.

The alliance is working to develop a marketplace consisting of all suppliers and solicitations within the 10 pilot partner groups, to include: Broward County Public Schools, Broward County, Miami Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade County, City of Miami, Broward College, Florida International University, University of Miami, University of Miami Health System, and Broward Health. The project is funded by a $2M grant from the Health Foundation of South Florida and implementation is targeted for January 2023.

- *3. The 3-Quotes Initiative*

EDDC is working to gain District-wide commitment from the individual department heads to implement the 3-Quotes initiative to considerably increase spending with small, minority, and women business enterprises. It is an avenue for success for local firms and requires District schools and departments to receive 2 of 3 quotes from certified suppliers when purchasing goods and services between $5k - $50k. EDDC is working to track compliance with this procurement policy.

- *4. Engage Internal Departments in the API Process for Commodities Solicitations*

Based on Policy 3330, the Supplier Diversity Outreach Program assigns industry-specific remedial Affirmative Procurement Initiatives on construction and commodities contracts, and EDDC aims to advance the inclusion and involvement of District Departments to continue to increase opportunities for local firms.

In FY21-22, out of the eleven procurement commodity areas, from construction to HR services, everyone exceeded $1M in spend with BCPS local, certified suppliers. In this fiscal year, EDDC will continue to work to increase spend particularly in the areas of Transportation, Technology, Academics, and Human Resources.

- *5. System Enhancements*

In FY23 Q1, EDDC will implement a Reciprocal Certification module, in B2Gnow, to streamline the process for firms certified with other agencies in the Tri-County. In addition, they are working with the Procurement & Warehousing Services' Operations & Compliance team to continually improve and enhance the user experience in Ariba. Implementation of reciprocal certification in B2Gnow will enable a seamless certification process for firms currently certified with Miami-Dade County Public Schools and The School District of Palm Beach County.

- *6. Community Partnerships*

The team will continue to formalize regional partnerships with supplier inclusion organizations to leverage and build relationships for increased access to resources supporting small business growth and development.

- *7. Events*

EDDC will continue to partner, host, and participate in events to facilitate network-building and matchmaking opportunities for local suppliers.

In closing, to view EDDC program data and metrics, go to "EDDC By Numbers" on the department's website at www.browardschools.com/eddc. And the Small Business Advisory Committee looks forward to a year of continued advancement for local suppliers who aspire to provide goods and services to Broward Schools.

Thank you for your time.