

Dr. Steve Gallon III, Board Member

SUBJECT: MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN PROCUREMENT

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: EFFECTIVE & SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL PRACTICES

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is committed to policies and practices that promote and support expanded and fair access and participation by small, micro, minority, and veteran owned businesses. Originally adopted by the School Board in November 2012 and updated in November 2014 and September 2015, Policy 6320.02, Small, Micro Business Enterprise (S/MBE) Program, governs this commitment and promotes the development, economic inclusion, and growth of small, micro, and minority businesses.

M-DCPS promotes and supports the economic development and growth of small, micro, minority, and veteran owned businesses through its certification program, community outreach programs, contract review and monitoring activities in addition to ongoing interaction with other municipal agencies, quasi-public agencies, and the local marketplace. Further, these efforts reflect fair, open, and transparent business practices, and those that seek to eliminate perceived, artificial, or actual barriers to business engagements with the district and allow all businesses to flourish without the impediments or barriers of discrimination.

School Board policies and practices regarding these programs were established through a comprehensive, legally defensible process and one which serves as the guardrails of assurance and protection for the Board's small, micro, minority, and veteran owned business.

Recently, there has been both commentary and discussion regarding programs supporting small, micro, minority, and veteran owned businesses in M-DCPS, as well as policies and practices pertaining thereto. Although such commentary and discussion may be appropriate, absent the fulcrum of such program development, implementation, monitoring, and impact, such commentary and discussion may be uninformed, misinformed, or ill-informed. Thus, it is prudent that the School Board, as well as the public and relevant stakeholders, be provided a comprehensive review of the program, including its origin, development, intent, evolution, and measurable impact.

This item seeks to direct the Superintendent, in consultation with the School Board Attorney, to conduct a presentation on the initial impetus, relevant quantitative data, research-based and legal framework, program development, overview, and implementation, measurable impact, and any additional relevant information pertaining to the District's program for small, micro, minority, and veteran owned businesses at School Board Workshop no later than August 30, 2023.

This item has been reviewed by the General Counsel as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. STEVE GALLON III:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida directs the Superintendent, in consultation with the School Board Attorney, to conduct a presentation on the initial impetus, relevant quantitative data, research-based and legal framework, program development, overview, and implementation, measurable impact, and any additional relevant information pertaining to the District's program for small, micro, minority, and veteran owned businesses at School Board Workshop no later than August 30, 2023.