



News Release

Broward County Public Schools

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Disparity Study Results Presented During School Board Workshop

Today, Tuesday, October 27, 2015, The School Board of Broward County, Florida, held a workshop to discuss the results of a Disparity Study (Study), which evaluated the District's procurement and contracting practices.

The Study focused on assessing the level of diversity in the District's awarding of contracts and purchasing opportunities, particularly among small, minority and women-owned businesses. The Study represents the first phase in the District's continuous improvement initiative. Study results will be utilized to drive improvements and strategies for increasing participation among underutilized businesses.

"It's critical for our District to have a fair and equitable distribution of procurement and contracting opportunities," said Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert W. Runcie. "I initiated the Disparity Study to ensure our District's practices reflect the community we serve. Through this Study, we are sending a message to our local community that their business is important to us."

The Study, which was conducted by the national public policy research firm, Mason Tillman Associates, Ltd., included a five-year time period from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2013. The researchers evaluated the District's contracting practices in the areas of professional services, contractual services, commodities and construction. Local businesses also played an important role in the Study by participating in interviews and surveys.

During the School Board workshop, Mason Tillman Associates presented an overview of the Final Report findings, as well as recommendations to increase procurement and contracting opportunities among minority and women-owned businesses.

To watch the workshop discussion, click here or copy and paste the following web link into your browser:

<https://becon223.eduvision.tv/directplayer.aspx?q=CT1wecDsedBuKZY0uxw0b59jQS%252fNr2VI41dIZmfAtWV3yQYbCZBxq4DAp4YzJcpU>.

To view the Disparity Study Final Report and other information, visit broward.k12.fl.us/supply/sdop/disparity.html.

For additional information, contact the District's Supplier Diversity & Outreach Program at 754-321-0550.

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ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE – Established 1915

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is the sixth largest public school system in the United States and the second largest in the state of Florida. BCPS is Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962. BCPS has nearly 270,000 students and approximately 175,000 adult students in 238 schools, centers and technical colleges, and 105 charter schools. BCPS serves a diverse student population. Students are from 204 different countries and speak 135 different languages. For more information about BCPS and the Centennial Celebration, visit browardschools.com, follow BCPS on Twitter @[browardschools](https://twitter.com/browardschools), like BCPS on Facebook at facebook.com/browardschools, and download the free BCPS mobile app.