MINORITY AND WOMEN OWNED ENTERPRISES

It is the policy of the Little Rock School District to promote full and equal access to business opportunities with the Little Rock School District. Minority-owned, women owned, as well as other vendors, will have a fair and reasonable opportunity to participate in LRSD business opportunities.

The Little Rock School District recognizes the purpose of State of Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated 15-4-301:315 to support and encourage participation of businesses owned and controlled by Arkansas minority vendors in an effort to provide maximum opportunity for minority business enterprises to participate in the procurement process for taxpayer funded projects and in the purchase of goods and services.

Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated 15-4-303 defines “minority” as a lawful permanent resident of the State of Arkansas who is: a) an African American; b) an Hispanic American; c) an American Indian; d) an Asian Pacific Islander; “Minority business enterprises” means a business that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by one (1) or more minority persons as defined in this section. The District will use the same ownership percentage for defining ownership for women owned businesses. A certification process and criteria will be specified in the Board of Education regulation DJF-R.

The Superintendent will implement a Minority Business Enterprise Program (MBE) that includes an annual spending goal of thirty percent (30%) with minority business enterprises.

The Superintendent will implement a Women Owned Business Enterprise Program (WBE) that includes an annual spending goal of thirty percent (30%) with women owned business enterprises.

The percentage of business done with minority business enterprises and with women business enterprises will be tracked toward each separate goal of the MBE and WBE programs. The Little Rock School District encourages minority and women owned small business vendors to contact the Procurement Department of the Little Rock School District for assistance in the methods of doing business with the Little Rock School District.

Adopted: September 13, 2012

Legal References: A.C.A. 15-4-301:315