

## **DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES**

106 S. Hollywood, Room 126 • Memphis, TN 38112 • (901) 416-5376 • www.scsk12.org

## **RESOLUTION FOR PROTEST AND DISPUTES**

The Procurement Director shall attempt to resolve informally all protests of bid award recommendations. Vendors are encouraged to present their concerns promptly to the buyer for consideration and resolution. Open dialogue is helpful for all parties and disputes are often only a misunderstanding of the evaluation and recommendation process.

## A. RIGHT TO PROTEST

Prior to the commencement of an action in court concerning the controversy, any actual vendor who claims to be aggrieved in connection with a solicitation, the solicitation process, or a pending award of a contract may protest to the Buyer. Procurement Director shall attempt to resolve informally all protest of award recommendations. Protest shall be submitted in writing within seven (7) days after such claimant knows or should know of the facts giving rise to the protest.

- 1. An aggrieved bidder of standing or offeror may protest to the Buyer a proposed award of a contract for supplies, equipment, services, or maintenance. A bidder of standing is a bidder who would be directly next in line for an award should the protest be supported.
  - a. The protest shall be in writing addressed to the Buyer with a copy to the Procurement Director and shall include the following:
    - The name address and telephone number(s) of the protester.
    - Identification of the solicitation
    - Statement of reasons for the protest
    - Supporting documentation to substantiate the claim
    - The remedy sought
- 2. The protest must be filed with the Procurement Office within seven (7) calendar days of the recommendation of award or notification to the bidder or offeror that their bid or proposal will be rejected.
- 3. A vendor who does not file a timely protest before the contract is executed by the Board is deemed to have waived any objection.

- 4. The Procurement Director shall inform the Chief of Business Operations (CBO) upon receipt of the protest.
- 5. The Procurement Director shall confer with the General Counsel prior to issuance of a decision regarding disputes of contracts or awards.

## **B. APPEAL OF CONTRACT AWARD DECISION**

- 1. The Procurement Director shall issue a decision in writing. Any decision of an award protest may be appealed to the CBO within seven (7) days of issuance of the decision by the Procurement Director
- 2. Any decision of an award protest may be appealed to the Superintendent within seven (7) days of issuance of the decision by the Chief of Business Operations.
- 3. The Superintendent will evaluate the issues involved and render a decision. The decision of the Superintendent is final.