

**SCHOOL/BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS****Date: August 10, 1999**

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The Columbia County Board of Education recognizes the potential benefit of utilizing community resources for the purpose of furthering the educational opportunities available to students. It is essential that the curriculum address local needs and that those needs be assessed through active community involvement.

Since community organizations such as government agencies, businesses, industries, colleges, hospitals, churches, social or community service clubs, represent the organization of human resources to accomplish a common goal, it shall be the policy of the Board to encourage the development of cooperative partnerships with such agencies in order to maximize educational opportunities. Partnerships in education shall be voluntary formal arrangements between public or private sector entities and schools in which the partners match educational needs with available resources to improve the quality of education within the community. Both the school and the adopting agency shall reap the benefits of teaming together to assist the youth of the community.

In developing such a partnership, the school and the adopting agency shall meet to cooperatively plan the guidelines of the partnership. The plan must be written and should outline the commitments of the school and the adopting agency. The principal of the school shall have the responsibility for ensuring that all activities are wholesome and sound, and further, that the activities have a direct relationship to the educational process.

**PROCEDURE: NO****ADOPTED: 12/10/85****REVISED: 10/1/97**