



James Posey (from left), former chair of the National Association for Minority Contractors and former president of the Coalition of Black Men; Lee Fleming, senior contract analyst in purchasing and contracting for Portland Public Schools; Melvin Oden-Orr, general counsel for the National Association of Minority Contractors, and PPS Superintendent Carole Smith, gather in support of the school district's new Equity in Purchasing and Contracting policy.

# Drawing More Business from Minority Firms

## Diverse contracting now policy in Portland schools

Under a new policy geared towards equity, Portland Public Schools plans to draw more busi-

nesses owned by women and people of color. The "Equity in Public Pur-

chasing and Contracting Policy" is expected to benefit the community as well as students of

color and young women. "In addition to the economic impact of our community, our policy provides more opportunities for our students to gain ca-

reer-related experience from successful professionals of all races and genders that contract

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