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FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS

The quantity and quality of learning programs are directly dependent on the funding provided and the effective, efficient management of those funds. It follows that the District's purposes are best achieved through excellent fiscal management.

Because of resource limitations, there is sometimes a temptation to operate so that fiscal concerns overshadow the educational program. Recognizing this, it is essential that the Board take specific action to make certain that education remains central and that fiscal matters contribute to the educational program. This concept will be incorporated into Board operations and into all aspects of District management and operation.

As trustees of the community's investment in plant, facilities and operational funds, the Board has a responsibility to ensure that the investment is protected and used wisely. Competent personnel and efficient procedures are essential for sound management of fiscal affairs. The Board expects the Superintendent and the Treasurer will keep them informed through both oral and written reports on the fiscal management of the schools.

The Treasurer and the Superintendent with the assistance of other designated personnel develop an efficient and effective procedure for fiscal accounting, purchasing and the protection of plant, grounds, materials and equipment through prudent and economical operation, maintenance and insurance.

The Board seeks to achieve the following goals:

1. to engaging thorough advance planning, with staff and community involvement, in developing budgets and guiding expenditures to achieve the greatest educational returns for the dollars expended;
2. to establish levels of funding that will provide high quality education for the District's students;
3. to use the best available techniques for budget development and management;
4. to provide timely and appropriate information to all staff with fiscal management responsibilities and
5. to establish effective procedures for accounting, reporting, business, purchasing and delivery, payroll, payment of vendors and contractors and all other areas of fiscal management.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

CROSS REF.: AFA, Evaluation of School Board Operational Procedures (Also BK)

ANNUAL BUDGET AND
ANNUAL APPROPRIATION MEASURE

Budget

The purpose of the annual tax budget is to identify adequate financial resources for the education program and to provide a basis for accountability in fiscal management. The District budget is also the legal basis for the establishment of tax rates.

Public school budgeting is regulated and controlled by statute and state regulations and requirements of the Board of Education. A budget is required for every fund a District uses in its yearly operation.

The Superintendent, the Treasurer and their staffs are responsible for the preparation of the annual school budget and presentation of the budget to the Board of Education for adoption.

Appropriations

As permitted by law, no later than July 1, the Board may pass a temporary appropriation measure to provide for meeting the ordinary expenses of the District until such time as the Board receives from the County Auditor and approves the annual appropriation resolution for the year.

The Treasurer files both the temporary and final appropriations measures at the proper times with the office of the County Auditor.

The Superintendent/designee notifies each school administrator and/or department head of the allocations approved for expenditure.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: May 10, 1993]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.34

3311.40

3313.18

5705.14; 5705.15; 5705.16; 5705.28; 5705.29; 5705.35-5705.412

BUDGET PLANNING
(Five-Year Forecast)

Budget planning is an integral part of program planning so that the annual operating budget may effectively express and implement all programs and activities of the District. Budget planning is a year-round process involving broad participation by administrators, teachers and other personnel throughout the District.

The Superintendent and the Treasurer are responsible for preparing the five-year forecast for the Board's approval. The forecast is for the current fiscal year and four years beyond.

The five-year forecast is prepared twice a year and filed with the Ohio Department of Education. The initial filing is due on or before November 30 and an update by May 31. The five-year forecast is updated as often as necessary in order to communicate significant changes in the District's financial position.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: April 26, 1993]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 23, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.01; 5705.28 through 5705.32; 5705.35; 5705.36; 5705.37; 5705.39;
5705.391

CROSS REF.: BCF, Advisory Committees to the Board

BUDGET ADOPTION PROCEDURES

If, as a result of the public hearing, it is determined certain changes in the budget are necessary, these changes are made before the budget is adopted. The adoption of the budget by the Board takes place on or before January 15 and by roll-call vote.

Following the public hearing and approval of the budget by the Board of Education, the budget is submitted to the county budget commission for review and approval.

The Superintendent, members of his/her staff and the Treasurer may attend the hearing of the Seneca County Budget Commission to answer any questions the Commission may have.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.28
5705.30

BUDGET TRANSFER AUTHORITY

Transfer of funds among appropriation accounts within each major fund and any transfers permitted by law from major fund to major fund requires Board action.

Transfers Between Categories

During the final quarter of the fiscal year, appropriations categories are examined and the year-end status of each is estimated. Before the close of the fiscal year, the Board authorizes the Treasurer to transfer monies from those categories in which a surplus is anticipated into those in which a deficit is anticipated as permitted by State or Federal statutes.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent and the Treasurer to examine the appropriations categories and make the necessary recommendations to the Board.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.14; 5705.16; 5705.40

FUNDING PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS

The Board directs the Superintendent to apply for any state or federal grants for which the District is eligible, at his/her discretion. The Superintendent/designee evaluates federally funded programs and state grants, including their possible benefits to the students in the District, appraises the Board of the worth of each and makes recommendations accordingly.

The District participates to its limit of eligibility in the use of funds provided by the state for the educational benefit of its students.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 22, 2013]

LEGAL REF.: ORC 3313.20

REVENUES FROM TAX SOURCES

In an attempt to provide sufficient financial resources, the Board:

1. requests that voters approve adequate local funds for the operation of the District and determines the amount of the individual levies at the time of the initial request, or at the time of a request for renewal or replacement, to yield sufficient revenue for the operating expenses of the District;
2. accepts available state funds to which the District is entitled by law or through regulations of the State Board of Education and
3. accepts federal funds which are available, provided that there is a specific need for them and that the required matching funds are available.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 22, 2013]

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Const. Art. XII, Section 2

ORC 3301.07

3311.21

3313.17 through 3313.20; 3313.29; 3313.51

3317.01 through - 3317.11

3323.09

Chapters 5701; 5705

5748.01 through - 5748.06

ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS

The Board accepts federal funds, which are available, provided that there is a specific need for them and that the required matching funds are available. The Board intends to administer federal grant awards efficiently, effectively and in compliance with all requirements imposed by law, the awarding agency and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) or other applicable pass-through entity.

The Board directs the Treasurer to develop, monitor, and enforce effective financial management systems and other internal controls over federal awards that provide reasonable assurances that the District is managing the awards in compliance with all requirements for federal grants and awards. Systems and controls must meet all requirements of Federal law and regulation, including the Uniform Guidance issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and any applicable state requirements, and shall be based on best practices.

All individuals responsible for the administration of a federal grant or award shall be provided sufficient training to carry out their duties in accordance with all applicable requirements for the federal grant or award.

The financial management systems and internal controls must provide for:

1. identification of all federal funds received and expended and their program source;
2. accurate, current, and complete disclosure of financial data in accordance with federal requirements;
3. records sufficient to track the receipt and use of funds;
4. effective control and accountability over assets to assure they are used only for authorized purposes and
5. comparison of expenditures against budget.

In addition, written procedures must be established for cash management and for determining the allowability of costs, as required by the Uniform Guidance.

At a minimum, the financial management systems and internal controls will address the following areas:

1. Allowability

Costs charged by the school system to a federal grant must be allowed under the individual program and be in accordance with the cost principles established in the Uniform Guidance, including how charges made to the grant for personnel are to be determined. Costs will be charged to a federal grant only when the cost is:

- A. reasonable and necessary for the program;
- B. in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and grant terms;
- C. allocable to the grant;
- D. adequately documented and
- E. consistent with District policies and procedures that apply to both federally-funded and non-federally funded activities.

Internal controls will be sufficient to provide reasonable assurance that charges to federal awards for personnel expenses are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated and documented.

Controls include time and effort reporting in accordance with Uniform Guidance and the requirements of ODE or other applicable pass-through-entity. Records are sufficient to verify that time spent and compensation (including salary and benefits) are allocable to the fund.

2. Cash Management and Fund Control

Payment methods must be established in writing that minimize the time elapsed between the draw-down of federal funds and the disbursement of those funds. Standards for funds control and accountability must be met as required by the Uniform Guidance for advance payments and in accordance with the requirements of ODE or other applicable pass-through-entity.

3. Procurement

Prior to July 1, 2018, the District followed the requirements outlined in previous OMB guidance. Effective July 1, 2018 all purchases for property and services made using federal funds must be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations, the Uniform Guidance, and the District's written policies and procedures.

The District avoids situations that unnecessarily restrict competition and avoids acquisition of unnecessary or duplicative items. Individuals or organizations that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, and/or invitations for bids, requests for proposals, or invitations to negotiate, are excluded from competing for such purchases. The District performs a cost and price analysis for every procurement over the established simplified acquisition threshold.

Contracts are awarded only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration is given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources. No contract is awarded to a contractor who is suspended or debarred from eligibility for participation in federal assistance programs or activities.

The District takes all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

Purchasing records are sufficiently maintained to detail the history of all procurements and must include at least the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, and contractor selection or rejection; the basis for the contract price; and verification that the contractor is not suspended or debarred.

4. Conflict of Interest and Mandatory Disclosures

The District complies with the requirements of State law and the Uniform Guidance for conflicts of interest and mandatory disclosures for all procurements with federal funds.

Each employee, board member, or agent of the school system who is engaged in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal grant or award and who has a potential conflict of interest must disclose that conflict in writing to the Treasurer. The Treasurer discloses in writing any potential conflict of interest to ODE or other applicable pass-through-entity.

A conflict of interest would arise when the covered individual, any member of his/her immediate family, his/her partner, or an organization, which employs or is about to employ any of those parties has a financial or other interest in or receives a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. A covered individual who is required to disclose a conflict will not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal grant or award.

Employees, Board members, or agents of the District will not solicit or accept any gratuities, favors, or items from a contractor or a party to a subcontractor for a federal grant or award. Violations of this rule are subject to disciplinary action.

The Treasurer discloses in writing to ODE or other applicable pass-through-entity in a timely manner all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuities potentially affecting any federal award. The Treasurer fully addresses any such violations promptly and notifies the Board accordingly.

5. Equipment and Supplies Purchased with Federal Funds

Equipment and supplies acquired with federal funds will be used, managed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal requirements. Property records and inventory systems shall be sufficiently maintained to account for and track equipment that has been acquired with federal funds.

6. Accountability and Certifications

All fiscal transactions must be approved by the Treasurer/designee who can attest that the expenditure is allowable and approved under the federal program. The Treasurer submits all required certifications.

7. Monitoring and Reporting Performance

The Treasurer will establish sufficient oversight of the operations of federally supported activities to assure compliance with applicable federal requirements and to ensure that program objectives established by the awarding agency are being achieved. The District submits all reports as required by federal or state authorities.

[Adoption date: December 20, 2016]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: October 24, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: November 27, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.314
117.101; 117.43
3313.33; 3313.46
3319.04
5705.39; 5705.41; 5705.412
2 C.F.R. Part 200

CROSS REFS.: BBFA, Board Member Conflict of Interest
BCC, Qualifications and Duties of the Treasurer
DI, Fiscal Accounting and Reporting
DID, Inventories (Fixed Assets)
DJ, Purchasing
DJC, Bidding Requirements
DJF, Purchasing Procedures
DK, Payment Procedures
EF/EFB, Food Services Management/Free and Reduced-Price Food Services
GBCA, Staff Conflict of Interest
IGBJ, Title I Programs

REVENUES FROM INVESTMENTS

Scope

The Board directs that the investing authority of the District resides with its Treasurer. This policy is designed to cover all monies under the control of the Board.

Objectives and Guidelines

The following investment objectives are applied in the management of the District's funds:

1. **Liquidity:** The investment portfolio remains sufficiently liquid to enable the Treasurer to meet reasonably anticipated operating requirements.
2. **Safety:** Investments are undertaken in a manner consistent with State law, which seeks to ensure the preservation of public funds.
3. **Income:** The Treasurer strives to achieve a fair and safe rate of return on the investment portfolio over the course of budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account State law, safety considerations and cash flow requirements.
4. **Diversification:** The investment portfolio should be diversified in order to avoid incurring potential losses regarding individual securities that may not be held to maturity, whether by erosion of market value or change in market conditions.
5. **Prudence:** Investments are made with judgment and care – under circumstances then prevailing – which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.
6. **Bank Accounts:** Relationships with banks are managed in order to secure adequate services while minimizing costs. Deposits should be concentrated in single accounts except where audit control considerations dictate otherwise.

Authorized Financial Institutions and Dealers

U.S. Treasury and agency securities purchased outright are made only through a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, through a bank, savings bank or savings and loan association regulated by the Superintendent of Financial Institutions or through an institution regulated by the Comptroller of the Currency, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or board of governors of the Federal Reserve System.

1. Repurchase agreements are transacted through banks and/or eligible dealers consistent with State law.
2. Certificates of deposit are transacted through commercial banks or savings and loans with FDIC coverage, and qualify as eligible financial institutions under State law.

Maturity

To the extent possible, the Treasurer attempts to match the District's investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. Unless matched to a specific cash flow requirement, the Treasurer will not directly invest in securities maturing more than five years from the date of purchase.

Derivatives

Investments in derivatives are strictly prohibited. A derivative means a financial instrument or contract or obligation whose value or return is based upon or linked to another asset or index, or both, separate from the financial instrument, contract or obligation itself. Additionally, any security, obligation, trust account or instrument that is created from an obligation of a federal agency or instrumentality or is created from both is considered a derivative instrument.

Allowable Investments

The Treasurer may invest in any instrument or security authorized in State law as amended. A copy of the appropriate section of the Ohio Revised Code is kept with this policy.

Collateral

All deposits are collateralized pursuant to State law.

Reporting

The Treasurer reports and maintains records of all investments and deposits.

All brokers, dealers and financial institutions initiating transactions with the investment authority by giving advice or executing transactions initiated by the investment authority must acknowledge their agreement to abide by the investment policy's content.

Internal Controls

The investing authority establishes a system of internal controls, which are documented in writing. The internal controls are reviewed periodically by an independent auditor. The controls are designed to prevent loss of public funds due to fraud, employee error and imprudent actions by employees and officers of the District.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: September 23, 1996]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: February 24, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Intergovernmental Cooperation Act
ORC 135.01 through 135.21
3313.51

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES
(Use of Facsimile Signatures)

The Treasurer authorizes these designated depositories to honor any instrument bearing an authorized facsimile signature in a form as he/she may designate and to charge the same to the account as fully as though it bore a manually written signature.

A facsimile signature includes, but is not limited to, the reproduction of any authorized signature by a copper plate or a photographic, photostatic or mechanical device. Written notice of the adoption of a facsimile signature is provided to the depositories. The notice includes a description of the device to be used and a sample of the facsimile signature. Written approval must be received from the depository before the facsimile signature can be used.

The Board purchases a surety bond to protect the loss of any public funds.

[Adoption date: August 23, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: December 18, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.10 through 9.12; 9.14
1306.06

BONDED EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS

At the time of appointment or reappointment of the Treasurer, the Board authorizes the Treasurer to execute a bond for himself/herself in an amount determined and approved by the Board. The bond must be deposited with the Board President and a copy certified by him/her must be filed with the County Auditor. The premium is paid by the Board.

The Superintendent, Board President and employees who handle school funds are included, at Board expense, in a position schedule bond. Position schedule bonds pertain to a specific position, not to an individual.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3.06
131.18
3313.25; 3313.83
3319.05
5705.412

CROSS REF.: BCC, Qualifications and Duties of the Treasurer

FISCAL ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The District's accounting system is in conformance with the Uniform School Accounting System as prescribed by the Auditor of State for the use of school districts, federal funds also are accounted for in conformance with the Uniform Guidance issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget and any applicable state requirements. The Treasurer is responsible for receiving and properly accounting for all funds of the District.

The financial records must be adequate to:

1. guide the making or deferring of purchases, the expansion or curtailing of programs and the controlling of expenses;
2. ensure that current data are immediately available and in such form that routine summaries can be readily made;
3. serve as a guide to budget estimates for future years and to hold expenditures to the amounts appropriated and
4. show that those in charge have handled funds within limitations established by law and in accordance with Board policy.

The Board receives monthly financial statements from the Treasurer, which show receipts, disbursements, appropriations, encumbrances and balances. The Treasurer makes all other financial reports required by law or by state or federal agencies and submits them to the proper authorities.

The Treasurer provides the Board with any other financial management reports that the Board determines necessary.

Financial records are permanent. The supporting documents may be destroyed only in compliance with the provisions of State law and in compliance with specifications of the District's records commission, the Auditor of State and the Ohio History Connection.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: January 28, 2014]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: October 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 117.101; 117.38; 117.43
149.01 through 149.43
3301.07
3313.29; 3313.32
3315.04
Chapter 1347
Chapter 5705
2 C.F.R. Part 200

CROSS REFS.: DECA, Administration of Federal Grant Funds
EHA, Data and Records Retention

INVENTORIES (Fixed Assets)

The Board, as steward of this District's property, recognizes that efficient management and full replacement upon loss requires accurate inventory and properly maintained property records.

The District conducts a complete inventory every five years, by physical count, of all District-owned equipment and supplies. For purposes of this policy, "equipment" means a unit of furniture or furnishings, an instrument, a machine, an apparatus or articles that retain shape and appearance with use, is nonexpendable and does not lose its identity when incorporated into a more complex unit. For purpose of items purchased with federal funds, equipment is defined as tangible, nonexpendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year with an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

This District maintains a fixed asset accounting system. The fixed asset system maintains sufficient information to permit:

1. preparation of year-end financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
2. adequate insurance coverage and
3. control and accountability.

Each building and additions to buildings are identified by location or name and are described in detail (e.g., size, number of floors, square footage, type of construction, etc.) with the value shown for all individual structures.

Fixed equipment is inventoried by building, floor and room name or number; each item is to be listed individually. (Leased equipment that the District will eventually own must be inventoried.)

Movable equipment is inventoried by building, floor and room name or number; each item is to be listed individually. Any item that has a model number or serial number has that number noted in the description for full identification. All items assigned to a building are the building administrator's responsibility.

All equipment purchased, after the initial inventory, as capital outlay or replacement with a cost of \$5,000 or more and with an estimated useful life of one year or more is tagged and made part of the equipment inventory. For fixed asset reporting purposes, all equipment in excess of \$5,000 is used. Property records and inventory systems are sufficiently maintained to account for and track equipment acquired with federal funds.

A listing of all equipment is maintained for each building and department. This listing is updated annually by the close of the school year, or not later than the second Friday in June of each year. This updated listing is then submitted to the Treasurer's office for audit purposes.

A physical inventory of supplies is taken at the building level at the close of the school year, or not later than the second Friday in June of each year. This updated listing is then submitted to the Treasurer's office for audit purposes.

The Treasurer shall be assisted by principals, directors, supervisors and professional and support staffs in the performance of this function.

Adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: May 27, 2008]

[Re-adoption date: September 23, 2008]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: November 28, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 117.38
3313.20; 3313.41
2 C.F.R. Part 200

CROSS REF.: DECA, Administration of Federal Grant Funds

AUDITS

In accordance with State statutes, all District financial records are subject to audit by the Bureau of Inspection and Supervision of Public Offices of the State Auditor's Office. The Board has the right to request an independent audit with the approval of the State Auditor's Office.

A copy of the Auditor's report is placed on file in the State Auditor's Office; another copy is submitted to the Board. The Board makes the audit report available for public inspection.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 117.10; 117.11; 117.12; 117.26; 117.27; 117.28
3313.29

PURCHASING

The function of purchasing serves the educational program by providing the necessary supplies, equipment and services.

The Board declares its intention to purchase competitively without prejudice and to seek maximum educational value for every dollar expended.

The Board assigns the responsibility for the quality and quantity of purchases made. The primary guidelines governing this responsibility are that all purchases fall within the framework of budgetary appropriations and that they be consistent with the approved educational goals and programs of the District.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.171; 3313.172; 3313.18; 3313.29; 3313.31; 3313.33; 3313.37;
3313.46
3319.04
3327.08
5705.38; 5705.40; 5705.41; 5705.412
Ohio Const. VIII, § 2e

CROSS REF.: DK, Payment Procedures

PURCHASING AUTHORITY

The Board of Education's authority for the purchase of materials, equipment, supplies and services is extended to the District administration through the detailed listing of such items compiled as part of the budget-making process and approved by the Board through its adoption of the annual appropriations resolution.

The purchase of items and services on such lists requires no further Board approval except in those instances where by law or Board policy the purchases or services must be put to bid.

In an effort to bring about the smooth and efficient operation of the school system, the Board passes, at its first meeting of the school fiscal year, authorizations for the procurement of supplies, equipment and services for the budget year.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.17; 3313.171; 3313.172; 3313.18

PETTY CASH ACCOUNTS

The Board directs the Treasurer to create petty cash accounts allowing certain administrators to make purchases within the District. Money can be drawn from accounts by check. The Treasurer designates who can use the accounts, the amount of money that may be placed in the accounts as well as the procedures and requirements for replenishing the accounts.

Account access is limited to only those individuals who have a job-related need to use these accounts. Any person using the accounts must keep a written log, which is to be turned in each day.

Annually, the Treasurer establishes the amount of money to be placed in the accounts. The Treasurer's approval is needed to replenish the accounts. No major purchases may be made from the accounts.

Any administrator who ignores procedures and does not take prudent measures to ensure that proper security is maintained, may be held personally liable for losses.

[Adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 23, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: April 25, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: October 23, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.22; 9.38
3313.291; 3313.31; 3313.51

CROSS REF.: DM, Cash in School Buildings

BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

Contracts for construction or demolition of buildings or for any improvements or repairs that exceed \$50,000 are let only after bids are solicited and received in compliance with law. However, if the Board enters into a shared savings contract for energy conservation measures, competitive bidding is not required. The Board may also enter into an installment payment contract for the purchase and installation of energy conservation measures and competitive bidding does not need to be utilized if two-thirds of the entire Board adopts a resolution stating that competitive bidding does not apply to the project.

If feasible, all purchases over \$1,000 but under \$50,000 will be based on price quotations submitted by at least three vendors. These quotations are treated confidentially until the deadline for filing is past; thereafter, they are public information.

The Director of Operations assembles the proper specifications and makes the necessary arrangements for public bidding and price quotations. The Treasurer receives the bids and price quotations and records them. The Director of Operations makes his/her recommendations to the Board. Upon approval by the Board, he/she processes purchase orders to those bidders awarded contracts and notifies the other bidders of the results of the bidding.

Purchases made through the use of federal funds are made in compliance with the requirements of State and Federal law, including the applicable bidding requirements.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]
[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]
[Re-adoption date: September 23, 2008]
Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.314
153.01; 153.12 through 153.14; 153.50 through 153.56
3313.372; 3313.373; 3313.46
3319.04

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing
DJF, Purchasing Procedures
ECF, Energy Conservation
FA, Facilities Development Goals
FEF, Construction Contracts Bidding and Awards

LOCAL PURCHASING

(Local Vendor Purchasing Policy For Non-Competitive Bid Purchases)

Tiffin City Schools receives great support from the Tiffin community, including local vendors. The school administration and Board of Education deem it equally important to support our local community, therefore the following procedures are to be implemented if a local vendor supplies the item (including services rendered) or an item similar in nature to the requested item:

1. A written quote request will be given to the local vendor. The vendor shall be given one week from the date the request was received by the vendor to complete the quote.
2. If the item can be supplied by a local vendor with equal or better service and the cost is within 10% of the quote provided by another vendor, the purchase should be awarded to the local vendor. Otherwise, the purchase will be awarded to the vendor offering the lowest price.
3. The appropriate administrator will prepare a requisition approving the purchase based on the quotations as noted above.
4. The completed quote will be attached to the requisition and forwarded to the Accounts Payable Department of Tiffin City Schools. If more than one quote was received, all quotes are to be attached to the requisition.
5. The Board appointed purchasing agent will review the quotes. The purchase order will not be approved without the proper quotes attached. Once the purchasing agent determines the proper procedures were followed, the purchase order will be approved.

These procedures apply to all Tiffin City School purchases. Purchases made as a result of donations or fundraisers are not exempt from these procedures.

[Adoption date: March 15, 2005]

PURCHASING PROCEDURES

Monies under the jurisdiction of the Board may not be expended except upon a warrant drawn against a specific appropriation and against a specific fund. Therefore, no contract or purchase order for the expenditure of money will be made unless there is attached to it a certificate of the Treasurer certifying that the amount required to meet the contract or purchase order has been appropriated and is in the treasury, or is in the process of collection, and is free from previous encumbrance.

Any contract or purchase order issued without such a certificate attached is void, except as the law allows later issuance within 30 days of the certificate and except that, if the amount involved is less than \$3,000, the Treasurer may authorize it to be paid without the ratification or affirmation of the Board. Under certain conditions, the law also allows the Treasurer to issue blanket certification, subject to limitations of time and amount as set by law.

Purchasing procedures are designed to ensure the best possible price for the desired products and services. Procedures for purchasing are developed to require that all purchases are made on properly approved purchase orders and that, for items not put up for bid, price quotations are solicited.

Special arrangements may be made for ordering perishable and emergency supplies.

All purchases for property and services made using federal funds are conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations, the Uniform Guidance, and the District's written policies and procedures.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: September 25, 2012]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.46
3327.08
5705.41(D)(1); 5705.412; 5705.44
2 C.F.R. Part 200

CROSS REFS.: DECA, Administration of Federal Grant Funds
DJ, Purchasing
DJC, Bidding Requirements

PURCHASING PROCEDURES

General

1. The Board designates the Superintendent as the purchasing agent.
2. No person may commit the District to a purchase without the appropriate certificate of the availability of funds.
3. The materials, equipment, supplies and/or services to be purchased are of the quality required to serve the function in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the requisitioner and the Superintendent.
4. It is the responsibility of the requisitioner to provide an adequate description of the item(s) purchased so that the purchasing agent may be able to prepare the specifications and to procure most expeditiously and economically the desired commodity and/or service. A source of supply should be included on requisitions for specialty or unusual items.
5. No requisitioner shall knowingly restrict competition or otherwise preclude the most economical purchase of the required items.
6. When a low bidder proposes an alternate as equal to that specified, it is the responsibility of the Treasurer to determine whether the proposed substitution is, in fact, an equal. Such decision is based on his/her evaluation and that of the requisitioner. In the case of disagreement between the requisitioner and the Treasurer, either party may refer the matter to the Superintendent.

Requisitions

1. The District establishes a standardized requisition procedure to allow authorized representatives to submit requests for the purchase of materials and supplies.
2. The following are designated as "requisitioner"; that is, they are authorized to issue requisitions against stipulated segments of budgetary appropriations: the Superintendent, administrative assistants, directors, supervisors and building principals. Each requisitioner is responsible for limiting his/her requisitions to the appropriate amounts.
3. Only District-approved methods or forms are used for requisitioning.
4. A requisition, to be considered appropriate for processing, meets the following requirements:

- A. contains adequate information and
 - B. is approved by and bears the signature of an authorized requisitioner.
5. All approved requisitions are submitted to the Treasurer.
 6. After a purchase order has been issued by the Treasurer's office, the number of the purchase order is recorded on the requisition.
 7. After processing, the original copy of the requisition is filed in the office of the Treasurer.

Purchase Orders

1. Purchase orders are prepared by the appropriate person and at a minimum include the following essentials:
 - A. a specification that adequately describes to the supplier the characteristics and the quality standards of the item required;
 - B. a firm, quoted, net-delivered price, whenever possible (unit prices are shown);
 - C. clear delivery instructions, including place and time;
 - D. appropriate account code number or appropriation code and
 - E. the Treasurer's certificate of available revenue and appropriation.
2. Purchase orders use an identifiable tracking system established by the District and contain the appropriate number of copies to meet District needs.
3. Verbal confirmation orders subject to subsequent confirmation by a written purchase order may be issued only in cases in which a bona fide emergency situation exists that can be handled only by this procedure:
 - A. whenever possible, a purchase order number should be given to the supplier and
 - B. a confirming requisition is issued immediately, marked "confirmation" indicating the purchase order number, if one was given.

(Approval date: January 9, 1989)

(Re-approval date: July 23, 2001)

(Re-approval date: September 25, 2012)

(Re-approval date: August 22, 2017)

CREDIT CARDS

The Board recognizes the efficiency and convenience afforded the day-to-day operation of the District through the use of credit cards under the supervision of the Treasurer. However, credit cards are not to be used to circumvent the general purchasing procedures required by State law and Board policies.

The Board authorizes the use of credit cards in the following manner.

Credit Cards

1. All credit cards issued to and in the name of the District shall be held and supervised by the Treasurer and used only for approved District-related activities.
2. Credit cards may be used for District-related reservations and expenses, conference registrations and hotel reservation guarantees for the Board and staff.
3. With prior approval of the Treasurer, credit cards may be used by school employees for school-related purchases from a vendor who does not accept purchase orders or vouchers.
4. The Treasurer keeps a record of all credit card use.
5. Receipts and appropriate form(s) are to be turned in with the credit card to the Treasurer within five business days upon completion of approved use. Failure to turn in receipts and appropriate form(s) to the Treasurer within five business days may result in the charges being deemed unrelated or unsubstantiated. The user is responsible for any unsubstantiated or unrelated purchases.

[Adoption date: October 23, 2007]

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing
DJB, Petty Cash Accounts
DLC, Expense Reimbursement
GCL, Professional Staff Development Opportunities
GDL, Support Staff Development Opportunities

CREDIT CARDS

Credit cards may be used for the following purposes.

1. School business travel, meetings, lodging and meals for out-of-District meetings or seminars are subject to the reimbursement limits established by the Board.
2. Purchases from vendors that require a credit card as form of payment do not supercede the requirement of pre-approval of a purchase order for the purchase. The use of the credit card for electronic commerce must be pre-approved by the submission of a purchase order prior to purchase.
3. The use of the credit card over the Internet must be safeguarded at all times. All vendors must be pre-approved for use and must show sufficient proof of being a legitimate business entity. All purchases over the Internet are the sole responsibility of the Board's authorized buyer in the event of business fraud.
4. If the use of a tax-exempt form is not possible, the expenditure is allowed. The person using the credit card should take along the appropriate tax exemption form so that sales tax is not charged.

Upon returning from an approved business trip, an employee shall submit all original itemized invoices and original credit card charge receipts to the Treasurer's office. Credit card statements will not suffice as invoices. Credit card statements will be mailed directly to the Treasurer's office. Any late fees assessed to the District due to an employee failing to submit invoices and credit card receipts on a timely basis are the responsibility of the employee. Receipts for meals must include the purpose of the meeting.

The use of the credit card is prohibited for the following items:

1. purchase of personal goods or services for an employee, an employee's spouse, children or anyone employed or not employed by the Board and attending a District business function;
2. payment of any fines, penalties or personal liabilities incurred by the employee;
3. alcoholic beverages or tobacco;
4. fuel for use in a personal vehicle;
5. entertainment expenses, including pay-per-view movie charges and/or
6. cash advances.

Persons using a credit card for personal, non authorized purposes or undocumented expenditures shall be held personally responsible for those expenditures. Abuse of the credit card is subject to disciplinary procedures, including termination.

The use of a credit card does not supersede the required completion of a professional leave form when applicable. These procedures also dictate the reimbursement procedures of the Board.

(Approval date: October 23, 2007)

PAYMENT PROCEDURES

All claims for payment from District funds are processed by the Treasurer. Payment is authorized against invoices supported by approved purchase orders, with properly submitted vouchers, or in accordance with salaries and salary schedules approved by the Board.

As an operating procedure, the Board receives lists of bills for payment from school funds each month. Actual invoices, statements and vouchers are available for inspection by the Board.

The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring that appropriate allocations are observed and that total expenditures do not exceed the amount allocated in the appropriations at all items.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.18
3315.08
5705.38 thru 5705.412

CROSS REF.: DJ, Purchasing

SALARY DEDUCTIONS

Except for deductions for absence not covered by paid leave or those required by law, salary deductions are allowed only upon authorization by the employee and approval by the Board.

The following deductions are required:

1. federal, state and local income tax;
2. employee's share of retirement contribution according to current rate as set by law;
3. absence not covered by paid leave and
4. Medicare deductions in accordance with Federal law.

Other deductions will be in accordance with negotiated agreements and/or Board policy.

The District limits the right of an individual employee to designate the agent, broker or company to write tax-sheltered annuities by requiring designation by at least 1% of the Board's full-time employees or at least five, whichever is greater, except that a Board may not require that a company be designated by more than 50 employees.

When a teacher is absent from duty and there is no sick leave applicable, or when the absence is unauthorized, the salary deduction for each day of unauthorized absence will be based on the current salary divided by the number of teacher workdays on the official school calendar as adopted by the Board of Education. In no case is just the salary of the substitute deducted or a teacher allowed to employ and pay for the substitute.

When a support staff employee is absent from duty and there is no sick leave applicable, or the absence is unauthorized, salary deduction for absence is made on a per-diem basis in accordance with the required work year for that particular job classification.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: April 26, 1993]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: May 27, 2008]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.40 thru 9.43; 9.45; 9.80; 9.81; 9.90; 9.91
145.37; 145.71-145.73
148.04
3307.51
3313.262
3315.08
3917.04

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

District personnel and officials who incur expenses in carrying out their authorized duties are reimbursed by the District upon submission of a properly filled out and approved voucher with supporting receipts required by administrative regulations. Expenses are approved and incurred in line within the limits of budgetary allocations for the specific type of expense.

When official travel by a personally-owned vehicle is authorized, mileage payment is made at the rate currently approved by the Board and within the limitations of Federal law.

A traveler on official school business is expected to exercise the same care in incurring expenses as a prudent person exercises in traveling on personal business. Excessive costs, such as those caused by circuitous routes or luxury services or accommodations, are not considered prudent, nor are they accepted for reimbursement.

[Adoption date: January 9, 1989]

[Re-adoption date: July 23, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 23, 2005]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2921.42; 2921.43
3313.12; 3313.20
3315.15

CROSS REF.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses
GCL, Professional Staff Development Opportunities
BHBA, School Board Conferences, Conventions and Workshops

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

All expenses must have prior approval from the Superintendent or his/her designee. The following regulations apply to travel and other types of reimbursable expenses directly related to the performance of District business.

1. Travel Requests: These must be submitted in advance through the appropriate administrators to the Superintendent or his/her designee.
2. Transportation: All modes of transportation are authorized consistent with the requirements of the assignment and the efficient and economic conduct of official business. Travel is by the most direct route.
 - A. Automobile: Reimbursement is made at the IRS rate established by the Board of Education. This is the maximum rate regardless of the number of passengers up to a maximum of 400 miles round trip, unless the employee has been selected to make a presentation (assuming the sponsoring organization is not paying expenses) or the employee is representing TCS in a District-wide project. Parking charges in reasonable amounts, as well as toll and ferry charges are reimbursable.

Teachers assigned to multiple buildings may be reimbursed for travel at the rate currently approved by the Board if the distance between buildings exceeds one mile. Requests are to be signed by the building Principal and submitted to the Treasurer on a monthly basis.

- B. Travel by Public Conveyance: Round-trip tickets should be purchased if these offer a price advantage. Approval is by coach fare only. Maximum reimbursement is equivalent to 400 miles round trip by automobile, unless the employee has been selected to make a presentation (assuming the sponsoring organization is not paying expenses) or the employee is representing TCS in a District-wide project.
 - C. Local Transportation: Local transportation such as taxicabs, airport limousines, and buses should be used when justified.
 - D. Car Rentals: Rental cars may be used only in cases of emergencies or when no other means of local transportation is practicable and the rental has been pre-approved. Emergencies include: canceled airline flights or change in destination due to inclement weather or other circumstances.

3. Subsistence:

- A. Lodging: Any person on official District business, who must secure lodging in connection with that business is entitled to reimbursement up to \$200.00 per night maximum. No lodging reimbursement is given for a one-day conference within 100 miles of Tiffin. If the traveler is accompanied by his/her spouse, lodging expenses are reimbursed at the single occupancy rate.
- B. Meals: Any person on overnight official District business, who must purchase meals is allowed \$25.00 per day maximum and \$12.00 per half-day maximum. Maximum gratuity allowed is 15%, or a rate imposed by the vendor.

4. Other Reimbursable Expense

- A. Telephone and Postage: Telephone toll calls from or to the District must be charged to the District office, thereby eliminating a claim on an expense voucher. Calls other than from or to the District should be charged whenever possible to the District. If an expense for telephone, postage or certified or registered mail must be paid in cash, the claim may be made on an expense voucher as a "miscellaneous expense." An explanation must be given, such as the origin and destination of the call. A receipt should be obtained.
- B. Conference Registration Fees: Conference and convention registration fees are reimbursable as a miscellaneous expense on the travel expense voucher. However, the Board will not reimburse any part of a conference for graduate credit. Registration fees may be requested for advance payment to the agency by separate purchase order prior to the event.
- C. Gratuities: Staff members are reimbursed with bona fide documentation for gratuities (up to 15%, or a rate imposed by the vendor) for any meals while on professional leave in the performance of their duties within the limits of prior approved meal reimbursements.

5. Travel Form and Receipts

Reimbursement for expense is obtained by submitting an expense invoice form and all itemized receipts (receipts showing only the total charge are not acceptable).

6. Total Reimbursement

- A. The Board will reimburse a maximum of \$400.00 per person, per conference including registration. Any exemptions to these maximum charges must have written approval of the Superintendent/designee prior to registration.
- B. Conferences are limited to one per year with the following exceptions: staff members selected to make a presentation, staff members representing TCS in a District-wide project, or permission of the Superintendent/designee.

(Approval date: January 9, 1989)

(Re-approval date: July 23, 2001)

(Re-approval date: October 28, 2008)

(Re-approval date: September 27, 2016)

(Re-approval date: August 22, 2017)

(Re-approval date: July 24, 2018)

CASH IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Monies collected by employees and by student treasurers are handled using prudent business procedures in order to demonstrate the ability of employees to operate in that fashion and to teach such procedures to our students.

All monies collected are receipted, accounted for and deposited every 24 hours if possible. In the event the Treasurer or person in charge of an activity is unable to deposit the money in 24 hours, the money are accounted for and deposited in the safe. The money is held no longer than three business days after receipt and the amount must be less than \$1000.00. If the amount is more than \$1000, or the money cannot be adequately safeguarded, it must be deposited on the business day following the date of receipt.

The Treasurer provides for making bank deposits after regular banking hours in order to avoid leaving money in a school building overnight.

[Adoption date: July 23, 2001]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.38
3313.291

CROSS REFS.: DH, Bonded Employees and Officers
IGDG, Student Activities Funds Management

SCHOOL PROPERTIES DISPOSAL

The Board believes that the efficient administration of the District requires disposition of property and goods no longer necessary for the maintenance of the educational program or operation of the District.

The Board recognizes that most unused property of the District has value and that it may be practical to retain such property for a period of time. Once property is no longer needed for school purposes currently or in the future, it should be slated for disposal at the Superintendent's discretion. State law governs the retention and method of disposal of the Board's property. Property and goods purchased with federal funds also are subject to the disposal requirements outlined in the Uniform Guidance issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Therefore, the Board follows the procedures required by the various statutes governing the disposal of real or personal property.

The Board follows the procedures set forth in State and Federal law for the disposal of real or personal property at the minimum dollar value set forth in the statute on the date the Board decides to dispose of the property. The Board is required to offer its real property for sale to all community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, STEM and STEAM schools for the period of time set forth in law. High-performing community schools as defined by State law, are given first priority. If a high-performing community school is not interested in buying the property, the Board then proceeds with offers to purchase from other start-up community schools operating in the District, college-preparatory boarding schools, STEM and STEAM schools located within the territory of the District. If no community school, college-preparatory boarding school, STEM or STEAM school is interested in buying the property, the Board may sell its real or personal property at a public auction, following specific statutory requirements if the property exceeds \$10,000 in value. If this statutory threshold is changed by the legislature, the Board and administration's responsibility changes automatically to reflect the new minimum statutory dollar value.

The Board directs the periodic review of all District property and authorizes the disposition by sale, donation, trade or discard of any property not required for school purposes.

The District complies with State law regarding the sale or lease of unused school facilities to high-performing community schools, community schools and, college-preparatory boarding schools, STEM and STEAM schools.

Disposal of Property Valued at Less Than the Dollar Value Set Forth in State Law

For the disposal of property that is not governed by Federal law, the Ohio Revised Code or administrative regulations, the administration is required to follow these procedures:

1. The Superintendent determines that the value of the property is less than the value set forth in State and Federal law when applicable. The property is valued pursuant to a reasonable method as determined by the Superintendent.

2. The Board is notified when real or personal property is no longer needed for school purposes and directs that the property be sold.
3. The Superintendent sells the property to a start-up community school or by bids, general sale, negotiated sale or by trade as determined by the Superintendent or the Board on an individual basis.

[Adoption date: July 24, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: September 25, 2012]

[Re-adoption date: January 28, 2014]

[Re-adoption date: February 24, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: October 27, 2015]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: October 24, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 131.09
3313.17; 3313.37; 3313.40; 3313.41; 3313.411; 3313.413
3314.051
5705.10
2 C.F.R. Part 200

CROSS REFS.: DECA, Administration of Federal Grant Funds
FL, Retirement of Facilities