

## SECTION D: FISCAL MANAGEMENT

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\*policies included in this manual

## FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS

The quantity and quality of learning programs are related to the funding provided and the effective, efficient management of those funds. It follows that the District's purposes can best be achieved through prudent 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 management contributes to the educational program. This concept is incorporated into Board operations and into all aspects of District management and operation.

As trustees of the community's investment in the facilities, materials and operational funds, the Board has a fiduciary 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 that the Superintendent and the Treasurer keep it informed through reports, both oral and written, of the fiscal management of the District.

With the assistance of the Treasurer and other designated personnel, the Superintendent is expected to 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 to:

1. engage in thorough advance planning, in order to develop budgets and to guide expenditures to achieve the greatest educational returns for the dollars expended;
2. establish levels of funding which provide high quality education for the District's students;
3. use the best available techniques for budget development and management;
4. provide timely and appropriate information to all staff with fiscal management responsibilities and
5. 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: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS MEASURE/  
BUDGET MODIFICATION AUTHORITY

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 State law and requirements of the Board. A budget is required for every fund that a district uses in its yearly operation.

The Superintendent/staff are responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and presentation of the budget to the Board for adoption.

Appropriations

As permitted by law, at the start of the fiscal year, the Board may pass a temporary appropriations measure to provide for meeting the ordinary expenses of the District until such time as the Board approves the annual appropriations resolution for the year, which is not later than October 1. If by October 1 the county budget commission has not certified all amended certificates of estimated resources to the Board of Education (or submitted a certification that no amended certificates are necessary), the Board can delay action on the annual appropriation measure until such time as the certificates are received.

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.

Budget Modification

Modification of fund appropriations of each major fund and any transfers permitted by law from major fund to major fund require Board approval.

Transfers Among 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.

Transfers among funds as permitted by statutes require Board action and may require approval from the Court of Common Pleas and the Tax Commissioner.

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: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 11, 2004]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.34

3311.40

3313.18

5705.14; 5705.15; 5705.16; 5705.28; 5705.29; 5705.35 through

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 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 October 31 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: April 20, 2001]

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

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives  
BCF, Advisory Committees to the Board

BUDGET ADOPTION PROCEDURES  
(Tax Budget)

The purpose of the annual tax budget is to enable the county budget commission to establish tax rates and to serve as a basis for certification of revenue to the District.

The annual tax budget is regulated and controlled by State law and the requirements of the local county budget commission in which the District is located. The commission may require the Board to provide any information needed by the commission to perform its duties.

The Board may establish additional budget requirements for funds at its disposal.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent and the Treasurer to prepare the necessary tax budget information and to attend any required tax budget meetings.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.04; 5705.28; 5705.281; 5705.30

## FUNDING PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to apply for any state or federal grants at his/her discretion. The Superintendent/designee evaluates federally funded programs and state grants, including their possible benefits to the students in the District, and apprises 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 of Ohio for the educational benefit of its students.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

## REVENUES FROM INVESTMENTS

All monies are under the control of the Board, which extends to the Treasurer the responsibility of overseeing these funds. In addition to the objectives detailed below, all relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code are adhered to at all times.

### Objectives

The following objectives apply to the management of District funds.

1. Investments are made in order to seek preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. To attain this objective, diversification is required in order that potential losses on individual securities, whether by default or erosion of market value, do not exceed the income generated from the remainder of the portfolio.
2. The District's portfolio remains sufficiently liquid to enable the District to meet reasonably anticipated operational requirements.
3. The portfolio is managed in such a way as to exceed or at least equal the market average rate of return over the course of budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account State law (which restricts the type of investments), safety considerations and cash flow requirements.
4. Bank account relationships are managed in order to secure adequate services while minimizing costs.
5. All deposits are concentrated in one account except where audit control considerations dictate otherwise.

### Public Trust

All participants in the investment process act responsibly as custodians of public trust. Investment officials avoid any transactions that might impair confidence in the government of the District. The Board recognizes that in a diversified portfolio occasional measured losses are inevitable and must be considered within the context of the overall portfolio's investment return.

### Investing Authority

The investing authority resides with the Treasurer. Such authority allows for the explicit delegation of authority to persons responsible for investment transactions.

The Treasurer signs and files the investment policies with the Auditor of State.

### Authorized Financial Institutions and Dealers

U.S. Treasury and agency securities and instrumentalities purchased outright are purchased through financial institutions located within the state of Ohio or through “primary securities dealers” located in the state of Ohio, as designated by the Federal Reserve Board, whenever possible. Changing portfolio needs may dictate the use of “primary securities dealers” outside of the state of Ohio. First consideration is given to state institutions.

Repurchase agreements are transacted only through bank branches and/or through “primary securities dealers” located within the state of Ohio with which the District has a signed master repurchase agreement as required in ORC Chapter 135.

Certificates of deposit are transacted through commercial banks or savings and loans with either FDIC or FSLIC coverage that have branches within the District.

A list of these authorized institutions and dealers is maintained with the investing authority. Additions and deletions to this list are made when deemed in the best interest of the District.

### Authorized Investments

The investing authority may invest on behalf of and in the name of the District in those instruments and other relevant sections of Chapter 135 ORC, at a price not exceeding their fair market value.

### Maturity

Market conditions and cash flow requirements are considered in determining the term of an investment. Provided cash flow requirements have been satisfied, maturity length is determined by market conditions and interest rate forecasts, with the goal being to buy where relative value exists along the maturity spectrum.

### Diversification

Investments of the District are diversified to eliminate the risk of loss resulting from over-concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issue or a specific class of securities. Strategies to achieve this are determined and revised periodically.

### Collateral

All investments and deposits are collateralized pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code.

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.

Reporting

The investing authority submits monthly an investment report that summarizes recent market conditions, economic developments and anticipated investment conditions. The report describes the portfolio in terms of security type, maturity and other features. The report contains all transactions executed that month. The report also explains the month's total investment return.

Performance Evaluation

The monthly investment reports contain sufficient information to permit an independent organization to evaluate the performance of the investment program.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: October 11, 2004]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES  
(Use of Facsimile Signatures)

The Treasurer's signature is used on checks, drafts, warrant-checks, vouchers and other orders on public funds deposited in designated depositories.

The Treasurer authorizes these designated depositories to honor any instrument bearing the Treasurer's 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. The Treasurer must notify the designated depositories, in writing, a description of the device used to produce the facsimile signature and a sample of the signature.

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

[Adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.10 through 9.14  
1306.06

## BONDED EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS

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

The Superintendent, Board President, staff and other 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: April 20, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

CROSS REFS.: DM, Cash in School Buildings  
EI, Insurance Management

## 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. 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 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 Historical Society.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

CROSS REF.: EHA, Data and Records Retention

## TYPES OF FUNDS

### Textbook and Instructional Materials Fund

The Board maintains a Textbook and Instructional Materials Fund. The fund is accounted for within the District's General Fund, using a reasonable accounting method implemented under the Auditor of State's guidelines as they are currently enacted. The requirement is 3% of the formula amount for the preceding fiscal year or another percentage if established by the Auditor of State.

This fund is used for textbooks, instructional software, materials, supplies and equipment. Any money in the fund that is not used in a fiscal year is brought forward to the next fiscal year. The amount brought forward is not intended to meet the set-aside requirement for the current fiscal year.

The percentage of revenues on deposit, as well as the definition of what constitutes textbooks and instructional materials, is subject to applicable rules to be jointly adopted by the State Auditor and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The fund may be used for other purposes if both of the following steps occur during a fiscal year.

1. The Superintendent must certify, in writing, that the District has sufficient textbooks, instructional software, materials, supplies and equipment to ensure a thorough and efficient education within the District.
2. The entire Board must unanimously adopt a resolution stating that the District has sufficient textbooks and instructional software, materials, supplies and equipment to ensure a thorough and efficient education within the District.

### Capital and Maintenance Fund

The Capital and Maintenance Fund consists of 3% of the formula amount for the preceding fiscal year or another percentage established by the Auditor of State of all revenues received that would otherwise have been deposited in the General Fund, except that money received from a permanent improvement levy may be used to meet this requirement. Money in this fund may only be used as provided by State law. The fund is implemented under the Auditor of State's guidelines as they are currently enacted; therefore, the requirement may be less for a particular fiscal year.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.17; 3315.18

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses  
DBD, Budget Planning  
HA, Negotiations  
IGDJ, Interscholastic Athletics  
IIAA, Textbook Selection and Adoption

## 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 shall conduct 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 which retain shape and appearance with use, is nonexpendable and does not lose its identity when incorporated into a more complex unit.

This District shall maintain a fixed asset accounting system. The fixed asset system shall maintain 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 five years 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.

Televisions, VCRs, computers and any other items highly susceptible to theft are tagged.

Audio-visual equipment and computer equipment are inventoried through the Audio/Visual Coordinator with sublisting of location. Each component is inventoried and tagged. An accurate official record is kept of textbooks, computer software and library books.

A computer-generated listing of all equipment is supplied to 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 computer update.

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 computer update.

The Treasurer is assisted by the Assistant Superintendent, principals, directors, supervisors and certified and classified staffs in the performance of this function.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 117.38  
3313.20

## 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: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

## PURCHASING

The function of purchasing is to serve the educational program by providing the necessary supplies, equipment and services. The Board's authority for the purchase of materials, equipment, supplies and services is extended to the District administration through its adoption of the annual appropriations resolution.

The Board declares its intention to purchase competitively without prejudice and to seek maximum educational value for every dollar expended. The purchase of items and services found on lists from the appropriations resolution requires no further Board approval, except in those instances in which, by law or Board policy, the purchases or services must be put to bid.

The Board authorizes "open" purchase orders to be issued for generic supplies for up to three months and up to the \$5,000 limit. Open purchase orders will not extend beyond the current fiscal year.

An open purchase order for a "specific" permitted purpose and in an amount not to exceed the line-item appropriation and fund, whichever is less, is authorized to the extent permitted by law. The permitted purpose list may include payment for accountants, architects, attorneys, construction project managers, consultants, engineers, fuel oil, gasoline, food items and utilities. The specific purpose purchase order may not extend beyond the current fiscal year.

The acquisition of supplies, equipment and services is centralized in the business office, which functions under the supervision of the purchasing agent through whose office all purchasing transactions are conducted.

The Board assigns to the purchasing agent the responsibility for the quality and quantity of purchases made. The Treasurer is charged with the responsibility to ensure that all purchases do not exceed appropriations.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Const. VIII, Section 2e  
ORC 9.314  
3313.172; 3313.18; 3313.33; 3313.46  
3319.04  
3327.08  
5705.38; 5705.39; 5705.40; 5705.41; 5705.412

CROSS REFS.: DJC, Bidding Requirements  
DJF, Purchasing Procedures  
DK, Payment Procedures

## PETTY CASH ACCOUNTS

The Board allows the Treasurer to create petty cash accounts allowing certain administrators to make purchases within the District. Money can be drawn from accounts by check or debit card. 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.

The debit card and check access is limited to only those individuals who have a job-related need to use these payment methods. Any person using the debit card or check 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 procedure and allows anyone else to use the card, or who does not take prudent measures to ensure that proper security is maintained, may be held personally liable for losses.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.38  
3313.291

CROSS REF.: DM, Cash in School Buildings

## BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

Contracts for construction or demolition of buildings or for any improvements or repairs which exceed \$25,000 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.

The assistant superintendent 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 assistant superintendent 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.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

## 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.

In compliance with the State Use Law, the Board directs the administration to determine if products and services needed by the District may be purchased from the Ohio Industries for the Handicapped. If applicable, the District will purchase products and/or services from the OIH.

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

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.46  
3327.08  
5705.41(D)(1); 5705.412; 5705.44

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing  
DJC, Bidding Requirements

## PURCHASING PROCEDURES

The following purchasing procedure shall be followed:

1. Only forms approved by the Treasurer's office shall be used.
2. A two-part NCR requisition form must be completed and signed by the staff member originating the requisition. Current and complete vendor name and address must be shown. Shipping costs should be added where applicable. Quotes, contracts, registration and entry forms must be attached when needed.
3. The requisition must be approved and signed by the building principal or assistant.
4. Approved requisitions will then be assigned a requisition number by the building secretary and entered online into USAS (Uniform School Accounting System).
5. After entry into USAS by the secretary, the requisition and all attached paperwork must be forwarded to the Treasurer's office. Online requisitions will not be converted to purchase orders unless the proper documentation has been received.
6. All requisitions must be approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
7. The Treasurer's office will convert approved requisitions into purchase orders, providing that funds are available.
8. The pink and goldenrod copies of the purchase order will be returned to the building along with a copy of the requisition. The white copy of the purchase order will be sent to the vendor.
9. Upon receipt of all items and verification of condition, the building will return the pink copy to the Treasurer's office initialed, dated and marked "OK for payment." Any packing slips or invoices received with the order should be attached to the OK to pay.
10. The Treasurer's office will process payment of the order.
11. Verbal confirmation orders subject to subsequent confirmation by a written purchase order may be issued only in cases where a bona fide emergency situation exists which can be handled only by this procedure:
  - A. Whenever possible, a purchase order number should be given to the supplier.
  - B. A confirming requisition will be issued immediately thereafter. This will be marked "Confirmation," indicating the purchase order number.

PLEASE NOTE: A minimum of one week should be allowed from the date the requisition is turned in until the purchase order will be issued.

Items ordered without an approved purchase order are the personal responsibility of the person placing the order.

(Approval date: April 20, 2001)

(Re-approval date: July 13, 2009)

## 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 transportation, reservations and expenses, conference registrations and hotel reservation guarantees for the Board and staff.
3. If monies are budgeted and deposited with the Treasurer in advance, credit cards may be used by school employees for student trips and competitions for safety and security reasons.
4. 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.
5. Usually tips are not permitted to be paid with credit cards.
6. The Treasurer keeps a record of all credit card use.
7. 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: July 13, 2009]

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing  
DJB, Petty Cash Accounts  
DLC, Expense Reimbursement  
GCL, Certified Staff Development Opportunities  
GDL, Classified 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. Gratuities are permissible only when card use is for group purchases and the tip is automatically added to the bill.
3. Purchases from vendors that require a credit card as form of payment do not supersede 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 names of all individuals for whom meals were provided and 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 administrator, an administrator'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 administrator or anyone else;

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, nonauthorized 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: July 13, 2009)

## PAYMENT PROCEDURES

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

As an operating procedure, the Board has adopted an annual resolution authorizing payment by the Treasurer for debts or claims. The Board receives a list of bills paid the previous month.

The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring that appropriate allocations are observed and that total expenditures do not exceed the amounts appropriated for all items.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.18  
3315.08  
5705.38 through 5705.412

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing  
DLB, Salary Deductions

## 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. unexcused or excused absence not covered by paid leave and
4. Medicare deduction in compliance with Federal law.

Deductions are in accordance with negotiated agreements and/or Board policy.

The District may limit the right of an individual employee to designate the agent, broker or company to write tax-sheltered annuities as per District negotiated agreements.

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

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

Unauthorized absences should not occur. Repeated unauthorized absences can result in the teacher or other employee being disciplined.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.40 through 9.45; 9.80; 9.81; 9.90; 9.91  
148.01; 148.04  
3315.08

CROSS REFS.: DK, Payment Procedures  
GCBD, Certified Staff Leaves and Absences  
GDBD, Classified Staff Leaves and Absences

CONTRACT REFS.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement  
Classified Staff Negotiated Agreement

## EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

District personnel 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 such supporting receipts as required by the administrative regulations. Such expenses may be approved and incurred within the limits of budgetary allocations for the specific type of expense.

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

The Board prohibits employees and Board members from accepting, soliciting or using the authority or influence of his/her position to secure, for personal travel, a discounted or “frequent flyer” airline ticket or other benefit from an airline if he/she has obtained or earned the ticket on official travel. Any miles earned become the property of the District and must be used for future official travel by District employees or the Board.

A traveler on official school business is expected to exercise the same care in incurring expenses that a prudent person would exercise 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: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

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

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses  
GCL, Certified Staff Development Opportunities

## 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 Board established rate. This is the maximum rate regardless of the number of passengers. Parking charges, as well as toll and ferry charges, are reimbursable.
  - B. Travel by Public Conveyance: Round-trip tickets should be purchased if these offer a price advantage. Approval is for coach fare only.
  - 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 for the cost of a single room. If the traveler is accompanied by his/her spouse, lodging expenses are reimbursed at the single occupancy rate.
  - B. Meals: Meals consumed by a person on official business are reimbursed upon submission of appropriate itemized receipts.

4. Other Reimbursable Expenses

- 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. Registration fees in excess of \$50 or more 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 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 expenses is obtained by submitting an expense voucher after the expense was incurred.

(Approval date: July 13, 2009)

## CASH IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Monies collected by employees and by student treasurers are handled with 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 will be accounted for and deposited in the safe. The money can be held no longer than three business days after receipt and the amount must be under \$1,000. If the amount is more than \$1,000 or the money cannot be adequately safeguarded, it must be deposited on the business day following the date of receipt.

In no case shall more than \$10 be left overnight in unsecured areas of school buildings. The Treasurer provides for making bank deposits after regular banking hours in order to avoid leaving money in a school building overnight.

[Adoption date: April 20, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.38  
3313.291

CROSS REFS.: DH, Bonded Employees and Officers  
DJB, Petty Cash Accounts  
IGDG, Student Activities Funds Management  
KMA, Relations with Parent Organizations  
KMB, Relations with Booster Organizations

## SCHOOL PROPERTIES DISPOSAL

The Board believes that the efficient administration of the District requires the disposition of property and goods no longer necessary for the maintenance of the educational program or the 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. Therefore, the Board follows the procedures required by the various statutes governing the disposal of real or personal property.

Before the administration may sell school property, the Board must declare the property to no longer be needed for school purposes. The Board follows the procedures set forth in State 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 first required to sell its real property to start-up community schools operating in the District. If the community school is not interested in buying the property, the Board can sell its real or personal property at a public auction and follow specific statutory requirements if the property exceeds \$10,000 in value. If this amount 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.

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

For the disposal of property which is not governed by 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 law. 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: September 10, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: July 13, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 131.09  
3313.17; 3313.37; 3313.40; 3313.41

CROSS REF.: FL, Retirement of Facilities