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FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS

The quantity and quality of learning programs are dependent upon 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.

Due to 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, with staff and community involvement, 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: October 11, 2004]

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 Treasurer, Superintendent and their staffs 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 funds between line item appropriations within 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.

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[Adoption date: October 11, 2004]

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

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 budget will reflect the District's goals, objectives and programs.

The Superintendent and Treasurer are responsible for preparing a proposed budget and presenting it to the Board by March 15 for preliminary approval. This proposed budget will be contingent upon state and federal support.

In addition, 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 (ODE). 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: October 11, 2004]
[Revision date: December 20, 2010]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.01; 5705.28-5705.32; 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

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

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

It is the responsibility of the Treasurer/designee to attend the hearing of the county budget commission to review the budget and answer any pertinent questions.

[Adoption date: October 11, 2004]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 5705.28; 5705.30

FUNDING PROPOSALS AND APPLICATIONS

The Superintendent/designee must evaluate and give approval to apply for all federally funded programs and all grants, including their possible benefits to the students in the District, and apprise the Board of the worth of each.

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: October 11, 2004]

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: October 11, 2004]

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 legal requirements 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, does 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 the 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 or through “primary securities

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dealers” located in the state, as designated by the Federal Reserve Board, whenever possible. Changing portfolio needs may dictate the use of “primary securities dealers” outside of the state. 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 with which the District has a signed master repurchase agreement as required by law.

Certificates of deposit are transacted through commercial banks or savings and loans with either FDIC or FSLIC coverage.

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 law, 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 to buying 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 law.

Competitive Bids

All sales and purchases of securities are bid competitively and to the extent practical are placed with the institution yielding the highest return. The right is reserved to reject the bid yielding the highest return on any investment if inconsistent with the investment strategy, i.e., maturity, risk, liquidity, etc.

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 contains sufficient information to permit an independent organization to evaluate the performance of the investment program.

[Adoption date: October 11, 2004]

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, photo static 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: September 25, 2007]

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 for himself/herself in an amount determined and approved by the Board. On behalf of the Board, the bond is kept in the Treasurer's office. The Board President certifies a copy and the copy is filed with the County Auditor. The premium is paid by the Board.

The Superintendent, Business Manager, 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: October 11, 2004]

[Revision date: April 6, 2010]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3.06

131.18

3313.25; 3313.83

3319.05

5705.412

CROSS REF.: DM, Cash in School Buildings

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, balances, assets and liabilities. 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: October 11, 2004]

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 may be less than 3% for a particular fiscal year.

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 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: October 11, 2004]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.17; 3315.18

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses
DBD, Budget Planning

Middletown City School District, Middletown, Ohio

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 \$2,500 or more and with an estimated useful life of five years or more is tagged and made part of the equipment inventory. Buildings and Improvements will have an estimated useful life of 25 to 45 years and equipment will have an estimated useful life of 5 to 20 years.

Audio-visual equipment and computer equipment are inventoried through the library with sublisting of location. Each component is inventoried and a number is engraved on each. An accurate official record of textbooks, computer software and library books is kept.

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. 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.

This updated listing is then submitted to the Treasurer's office for computer update.

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

[Adoption date: October 11, 2004]

[Revision date: February 25, 2008]

LEGAL REF.: ORC 3313.20

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 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 authorizes the Superintendent to assign 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 and that they are consistent with the approved educational goals and programs of the District.

[Adoption date: October 11, 2004]

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 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 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.

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: October 11, 2004]

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.

When competitive bidding is required, the Business Manager 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 Treasurer and/or Business Manager 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: October 11, 2004]

[Revision date: February 13, 2006]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.314
 153.01; 153.12 through 153.14; 153.50 through 153.56
 3313.372; 33313.373; 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. Exception by law allows later issuance within 30 days of the certificate, or, 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: October 11, 2004]

[Revision date: August 22, 2005]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.46
327.08
5705.41; 5705.412; 5705.44

CROSS REFS.: DJ, Purchasing
DJC, Bidding Requirements

Middletown City School District, Middletown, Ohio

PURCHASING PROCEDURES

General

1. The Board designates the Superintendent as the purchasing agent.
2. Only the persons designated by the Board may commit the system to a purchase.
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 as required by the Superintendent, so that the latter 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. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent to make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in the judgment of the Superintendent, the specification would restrict competition or otherwise preclude the most economical purchase of the required items. In the case of disagreement, either party may refer the matter in accordance with established procedure.
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.
7. Individuals not following the designated purchasing procedures may, at the discretion of the Treasurer, be held personally financially responsible for the entire amount of the purchase.

Requisitions

1. 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.

2. Only forms provided by the Treasurer are used for requisitioning.
3. Standard supply lists of commonly used items are jointly developed for all categories or groups of supplies by the Treasurer.
4. Items not specifically included on standard lists are requisitioned on the regular requisition forms.
5. The number of requisitions are kept to a minimum. They are submitted to conform with the purchasing schedule established by the Treasurer.
6. Requisitions are prepared in triplicate, with the yellow copy to be retained by the requisitioner.
7. 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.
8. All approved requisitions are submitted to the Treasurer.
9. After a purchase order has been issued by the Treasurer's office, the number of the purchase order is recorded on the requisition.
10. 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 include the following essentials:
 - A. a specification which 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. signature of the Superintendent/designee;
 - E. appropriate account code number and
 - F. the Treasurer's certificate of available revenue and appropriation.
2. Purchase orders are numbered and prepared in sets of four copies, each to be used as follows:

- A. original to vendor;
 - B. copy 2 filed numerically by purchase order number;
 - C. copy 3 sent to the accounting office for encumbrance and later filed alphabetically by vendor and
 - D. copy 4 returned to requisitioner, to be returned after certification as to receipt in proper quantity and satisfactory condition. (This copy is filed with the claim form by claim number.)
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 which 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: October 11, 2004]

[Revision date: August 22, 2005]

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. The Treasurer keeps a record of all credit card use.
6. 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 11, 2004]

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 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.

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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: October 11, 2004)

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: October 11, 2004]

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.

If requested by employees, the Board will implement payroll deductions for the Ohio Deferred Compensation Program. Other 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 by requiring designation by at least one percent of the District's full-time employees or at least 10, whichever is greater, except that a District may not require that a company be designated by more than 50 employees. In addition, 403b plan providers must be able to cooperate with the information and automation requirements of our Common Remitter service and Plan Administrator. Furthermore, the provider must execute a reasonable Hold-Harmless Agreement protecting the school district from any liability related to the 403b contract into which an employee enters. Also, the provider must agree to information sharing and all required communication regarding our employees' accounts in order that the district can administer its 403b plan as required by the Internal Revenue Service.

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 only the salary of the substitute be deducted or 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: October 11, 2004]
[Revision date: September 21, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.40 through 9.43; 9.45; 9.80; 9.81; 9.90; 9.91
148.01; 148.04
3315.08

CROSS REFS.: DK, Payment Procedures
GCBD, Professional Staff Leaves and Absences
GDBD, Support Staff Leaves and Absences

CONTRACT REFS.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement
Support 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 IRS rate.

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: October 11, 2004]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.12; 3313.20
3315.15

CROSS REF.: GCL, Professional Staff Development Opportunities

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. 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 a secured place. 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: October 11, 2004]

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 Student Support Organizations