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The Superintendent shall be responsible for planning the District's budget. The Superintendent shall keep the Board informed during the planning process and secure input from the Board through discussions or workshops.

The Board may approve a special committee to work with the Superintendent in determining budget priorities.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 141.434 (1); 141.422b (3) (c); 141.422d (1) (c) (d); 380.1133;
380.1218; 380.1281

The Board encourages the development of site-based budget development that includes the following major components:

1. The Superintendent and staff will establish a reasonable and prudent District total revenue target,
2. Basic costs, to be charged and not charged directly to individual schools, will be developed,
3. Resources will be distributed among the schools by a weighted-student formula that accounts for variations in the cost of delivery of educational services,
4. Principals will use a variety of methods to elicit suggestions from staff, parent(s)/ guardian(s), and students,
5. Each Principal will present the recommended budget to the Superintendent for review,
6. The Board will review the full budget at a public hearing according to law.

The District's budget shall be prepared by the Superintendent in cooperation with selected District employees and shall reflect the educational goals of the District.

The Superintendent shall prepare a detailed cost analysis study of all programs that are funded by the District's budget.

The Superintendent shall follow the adopted budget.

It shall be the goal of the Board to fund the operating budget according to approved fiscal and budgetary procedures adhered to and required by the State of Michigan. The budget shall be the vehicle by which the educational goals and objectives of the District are to be met.

Priorities

The Board shall establish priorities for the District on a short-term, intermediate and long-range basis.

Deadlines and Schedules

In order for the District's budget preparation to proceed in an orderly fashion, the Board shall establish deadlines and time schedules.

Encumbrances

Encumbrances may be made when the purchase is made or when an approved purchase order is processed. All encumbrances shall be charged to a specific fund.

Recommendations

Recommendations of the Superintendent and professional staff concerning the educational program of the District and related budget figures shall be presented to the Board prior to submission of the tentative draft budget.

Preliminary Adoption Procedures

The Superintendent, to the Board, shall submit a preliminary draft of the District's budget as the Board may require.

Hearings and Reviews

The Board shall conduct budget hearings according to state law.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 141.411; 141.421a-440a; 211.209-210; 380.1213-1214; 380.1216;
380.1218; 388.1702

Preliminary Adoption Procedures

The preliminary budget shall include expenditure and revenue data for the most recently completed fiscal year and the amount of surplus or deficit that has accumulated from prior fiscal years. The budget shall contain estimates needed for deficiency, contingency or emergency purposes. The debt fund budgets shall include the amounts needed to pay the Principal and interest from each fund for that fiscal year.

Details of expenditures and revenues for capital improvement projects from the general fund shall be projected for a period of three years. An informational summary of projected expenditures and revenues for the building and site funds of the District shall be included in the budget document with a projection of such expenditures and revenues for three full years beyond the fiscal year covered by the budget.

Recommendations

All recommendations of the Superintendent and staff shall be presented to the Board no later than the regular Board meeting in December.

Hearings and Reviews

All budget reports, explanatory letters and copies of the draft budget shall be available to interested patrons after being made available to the Board. The Board shall set the date, time and location of the annual budget hearing.

Encumbrances

The Superintendent shall make all encumbrances.

Priorities

The Board shall make the final decision for the priority status of various budget items.

Adoption

The Board shall approve the budget according to current law.

Within thirty (30) days after the Board of Education adopts its annual operating budget for the following school fiscal year, or adopts a subsequent revision to that budget, the District shall make all of the following available through a link on its website home page in a form and manner prescribed by the State Department of Education:

- A. The annual operating budget and subsequent budget revisions;
- B. Using data that have already been collected and submitted to the department, a summary of District expenditures for the most recent fiscal year for which they are available, expressed in the following two (2) pie charts:
 1. A chart of personnel expenditures, broken into the following subcategories:
 - a. Salaries and wages;
 - b. Employee benefit costs, including, but not limited to, medical, dental, vision, life, disability, and long-term care benefits;
 - c. Retirement benefit costs; and
 - d. All other personnel costs.
 2. A chart of all District expenditures, broken into the following subcategories:
 - a. Instruction;
 - b. Support services;
 - c. Business and administration; and
 - d. Operations and maintenance.

3. Links to all of the following:
 - a. The current collective bargaining agreement for each bargaining unit within the District;
 - b. Each health care benefits plan, including, but not limited to, medical, dental, vision, disability, long-term care, or any other type of benefits that would constitute health care services, offered to any bargaining unit or employee in the District;
 - c. The audit report of the audit for the most recent fiscal year for which it is available;
 - d. The total salary and a description and cost of each fringe benefit included in the compensation package for the Superintendent of the District and for each employee of the District whose salary exceeds \$100,000.00;
 - e. The annual amount spent on dues paid to associations; and
 - f. The annual amount spent on lobbying or lobbying services. As used in this subdivision, "lobbying" means that term as defined in Section 5 of 1978 PA 472, M.C.L.A. 4.415

The Board shall have an audit of the District's financial and pupil accounting records conducted at least annually at the expense of the District by a certified public accountant or by the Intermediate District Superintendent, as may be required by the State Department of Education.

The District's annual financial audit shall include an analysis of the financial and student accounting data used as the basis for distribution of State school aid. The student accounting records and reports, audits, and management letters are subject to requirements established in the auditing and accounting manuals approved and published by the State Department of Education.

Not later than the date established by the Intermediate School District (ISD) , the District shall file its annual financial audit report with the Intermediate District.

The annual financial audit reports and student accounting procedures reports shall be available to the public in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

By November 15th of each year, the District shall submit to the Center for Educational Performance Information (CEPI), in a manner prescribed by the CEPI, annual comprehensive financial data consistent with accounting manuals and charts of accounts approved and published by the Department. This submission shall contain the District's web address where the required financial data is posted. The District shall also include a link on its websites to the website where the State Department of Education posts this financial information.

By September 30th of each year, the District shall file with the State Department of Education the special education actual cost report on a form and in a manner as prescribed by the State Department of Education.

The District shall provide to the State Department of Education an annual progress report on the implementation of school improvements plans, curriculum, and accreditation as required by "Public Act 25 of 1990."

The District shall comply with the reporting requirements under State and Federal law, including reports to the center for educational performance and information (CEPI), as set forth by State law and as directed by CEPI. This shall include by:

- A. June 30th of each year, providing CEPI with information related to safety practices and criminal incidents;
- B. The first business day in December and June 30th of each year, providing CEPI with requested information related to educational personnel;
- C. Not later than five (5) weeks after the student membership count day, providing CEPI within a manner prescribed by the CPEI, the information necessary for the preparation of the District and high school graduation report;
- D. October 7th of each year, providing CEPI with the transportation expenditure report.

Approved: February 28, 2013

LEGAL REF: MCL 4.415, 388.1618, 388.1619, 388.1651a, 15.231 to 15.246, 380.1204a(1); 20 U.S.C. 6311

The Board realizes its responsibility under law to maintain a balanced, non-deficit, financial condition for the District so that the District does not find itself in a serious financial problem. Deficit financing is strictly prohibited by law. A budget fund balance provides flexibility in dealing with unanticipated budget emergencies such as mid-year reductions in state funding. In addition, it will help to avoid borrowing during the two-month period between the August and October State Aid payments.

To this end, the Board will strive to maintain an unappropriated fund balance in accordance with the recommendation of the Board's independent auditor as published in the annual audit report. Generally, this will mean a fund balance of no less than 3% minimum of the total annual operation expense of the District's General Fund Budget, or as otherwise recommended by the auditor.

The Superintendent is directed to bring only those budget recommendations to the Board that comply with all laws and the intent of this policy.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 141.1201; 141.1231 – 1244; 141.2101; 380.1211 – 1227

The Superintendent is authorized to approve adjustments and/or transfers within line items of the Board adopted operating budget not to exceed \$30,000.00 without Board approval. Such adjustments and/or transfers shall be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting of the Board. Authorization for such adjustments and/or transfers shall be included annually in the general appropriations act.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL141.421a-440a

Prior to any line item transfers within a building or division budget, authorization shall be received from the Superintendent. Building Principals or division/department heads must submit the request, in writing, supported by the rationale and reasons for said request.

The Board shall seek and consider as many sources of revenue as possible to supplement the funds received from local taxes and state aid.

The Superintendent shall assume the responsibility for keeping the Board informed of any revenue sources that could enhance the educational program or operation of the District, and for which the District may be eligible, and make recommendations to the Board for action.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 3.541; 3.542; 388.801; 380.1210

Short Term Loans

Bids shall be solicited for all short-term loans that the Board has authorized, and funds shall be borrowed from the responsible organization offering the most favorable bid. All loans shall conform to the requirements of the State of Michigan.

Sale of Bonds

The Board, upon a favorable vote of the people in compliance with the laws of the State of Michigan, may sell its bonds. Such bonds shall be duly advertised, prepared, and sold in conformance with the laws of the State of Michigan.

Debt Service

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to maintain all records as to the outstanding bonds and debts encumbered against the District. He/She shall keep this information readily available and report periodically to the Board on the condition of these accounts.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1356

The Board, by passing a resolution in order to actuate this policy, shall impose a summer property tax levy.

This tax levy shall continue during each subsequent summer until specifically revoked by the Board. Each summer property tax levy shall be for one-half of the District's annual school property taxes unless otherwise dictated by law.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1613

Section 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to set forth the investment objectives and parameters for the management of public funds of Westwood Community School District. This investment policy is designed to safeguard funds on behalf of the District, to assure the availability of operating and capital funds when needed, and provide an investment return competitive with comparable funds and financial market indices.

Section 2. SCOPE

In accordance with The Revised School Code of Michigan, Act 451 380.622, 380.1221 and 380.1223, this investment policy applies to all cash and investments held or controlled by the Board on behalf of the District. This policy does not apply to funds related to the issuance of debt where there are other indentures in effect for such funds. Additionally, any future revenues, which have statutory investment requirements conflicting with this Investment Policy and funds held or controlled by Federal or State agencies (e.g., Department of Revenue), are not subject to the provisions of this policy.

Section 3. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives, in priority order, of investment activities shall be safety, liquidity and yield.

A. Safety of Principal.

The foremost objective of this investment program is the safety of the principal of funds. Investment transactions shall be undertaken in a manner to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. The objective will be to minimize credit risk and interest rate risk.

i. Credit Risk (Custodial Credit Risk and Concentration Credit Risk)

The District will minimize Custodial Credit Risk, which is the risk of loss due to the failure of the security issuer or backer, by; limiting investments to the types of securities listed in Section 9 of this Investment Policy; and pre-qualifying the financial institutions, broker/dealers, intermediaries and advisors with which the District will do business in accordance with Section 7 of this Investment Policy.

The District will minimize Concentration of Credit Risk, which is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the District's investment in a single issuer, by diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized.

ii. Investment Rate Risk

The District will minimize Interest Rate Risk, which is the risk that the market value of securities in the portfolio will fall due to changes in market interest rates, by; structuring the investment portfolio so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations, thereby avoiding the need to sell securities in the open market; and, investing operating funds primarily in shorter-term securities, liquid asset funds, money market mutual funds, or similar investment pools and limiting the average maturity in accordance with the District's cash requirements.

iii. Foreign Currency Risk

The District is not authorized to invest in investments which have this type of risk.

B. Maintenance of Liquidity.

The funds shall be managed such that they are available to meet reasonably anticipated cash flow requirements.

C. Yield/Return on Investment.

Investment portfolios shall be designed with the objective of attaining a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints and liquidity needs. It is understood that return on investment is of secondary importance when compared to the safety and liquidity objectives described above.

Section 4. MANAGEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

The Board shall establish an Investment Officer to oversee the day-to-day management of District investments. The Investment Officer shall be responsible for the transferring of appropriate funds to affect investment transactions, for the investment of operating funds, operating reserves funds, and bond proceeds, consistent with this policy and actions of the Board. Should the Board elect to select an outside investment advisor, such advisor or firm must be registered under the Investment Advisor's Act of 1940.

Section 5. STANDARDS OF PRUDENCE

The standard of prudence to be used by the Investment Officer shall be the "Prudent Person" standard and shall be applied in the context of managing the overall investment program. The Prudent Person standard states:

"Investments shall be 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 from the investment."

Section 6. ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Investment Officer shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair one's ability to make impartial investment decisions.

Also, the Investment Officer shall disclose to the Board any material financial interests in Qualified Institutions that conduct business with the Board or the District, and they shall further disclose any material personal financial/investment positions that could be related to the performance of the District's investment program.

Section 7. AUTHORIZED INVESTMENT INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

Only firms meeting one of the following requirements shall be eligible to serve as

Authorized Institutions:

- A. The firm must comply with all of the following requirements.
 - i. Primary and regional dealers that qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1 (uniform net capital rule);
- B. Public Depositories qualified in accordance with MCL 380.1221, The Revised School Code of Michigan.

All brokers, dealers and other financial institutions deemed to be Authorized Institutions shall be provided with current copies of this investment policy and shall provide in return to the Board, certification of having read, understood and agreement to comply with this investment policy.

Section 8. COMPETITIVE SELECTION OF INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS

The Investment Officer shall obtain bids from at least two (2) brokers or financial institutions on all purchases of investment instruments on the secondary market.

Overnight sweep investment instruments shall not be subject to this section.

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED INSTITUTION

_____ acknowledges it has read, understands and agrees to
comply with the Investment Policy of Westwood Community School District.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.622; 380.1221; 380.1223; GASB Bulletin 40

Although policy 3300 serves to reduce the risks associated with the investment of District dollars, the District may have deposits and investments that are subject to various levels of risk.

Statement No. 40 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) requires that certain deposits and investments of a local government that have the potential to result in losses be disclosed in District financial statements. The administration, in consultation with the District auditor or accounting firm as necessary, shall insure that the District financial statements comply with GASB Statement No. 40.¹

The Superintendent may establish appropriate administrative rules to implement this policy.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 40.

¹ “This Statement [GASB No. 40] is designed to inform financial statement users about deposit and investment risks that could affect a government’s ability to provide services and meet its obligations as they become due.” Governmental Accounting Standards Board, *Statement No. 40*.

The administrator responsible for Business Management shall comply with the disclosure requirements of Statement No. 40 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Pursuant to the Statement, disclosures will be organized by investment type. Disclosure of risks in investments and deposits shall appear in the District financial statement, including, but not limited to, the information described in the paragraphs that follow.

Credit Risk

Credit risk information about investments in debt securities shall be disclosed in District financial statements by repeating the credit quality ratings of the investments made by nationally recognized rating organizations. Credit quality ratings of "...external investment pools, money market funds, bond mutual funds, and other pooled investments of fixed income securities..." must be disclosed. Obligations of the U.S. Government and obligations that may be guaranteed by the U.S. Government do not require disclosure of credit quality.

Where the investments issued by a single source constitute 5% or more of the total investment, information concerning the concentration of credit risk must be disclosed in the District's financial statement. Information concerning the interest rate risk of investments, or the terms of investments with values that are sensitive to interest rate changes must also be disclosed, using one of the methods described in GASB Statement No. 40.

Proceeds from fees for building or equipment use or rental shall be credited to a fund specified by the Board.

Rental and Leasing of District Property

The Board may authorize the rental or lease of District property not used for instructional purposes.

Gate Receipts and Admissions

School events where admission fees are charged are a part of the District's educational program; therefore, such fees are also a part of the District's budgeting process. Thus, the administration shall be given the responsibility to set such fees. The level of the fee shall be set taking into consideration those factors, which are a part of the appropriate school budget.

Free Admissions

Any resident of the District who is 62 years of age or older may apply for membership in the Gold Card Club. The membership card admits this member free of charge to any school activity. A fee may be levied to cover the direct cost of foods, materials, supplies, etc., involved with an activity.

Income and Payments from Sales and Service

Jobs or projects may be undertaken by students for private individuals or community groups. The facilities of the District may be used for such activities. All receipts shall be deposited in the general fund and used as a reimbursement for materials and/or to purchase additional supplies and cover expenses of a department.

Non-Sufficient Fund Checks

In the event the District should receive a check for any purpose that is returned due to non-sufficient funds (NSF) the District will assess a charge of \$25.00 to the issuer of the check to cover the administrative and clerical costs of dealing with the matter.

If the issuer fails to "make good" for the original check within 10 days of the date of the check being returned for NSF, the District reserves the right to file criminal charges and to refuse checks in the future from the issuer.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.11a; 380.1141

Rental and Leasing of District Property

Prior to leasing District property, the Board shall make known the availability of such property to the patrons of the District. The lessee shall be reputable and the use of the buildings shall be compatible with community standards.

In all cases, the lessee shall be responsible for the maintenance of the property and payment of utilities. The Board annually shall be informed of the name, address and telephone number of the individual designated as liaison with the Board. The lessee shall be required to pay any taxes that may be assessed against said property.

All lease agreements shall be prepared or reviewed by legal counsel prior to Board approval. In all cases, the amount received from the lease shall cover all expenses of operation that may accrue to the District.

Gate Receipts and Admissions

No fees shall be charged unless first approved by the Board. All special tickets, i.e., season tickets, all sports tickets, and free passes, etc. shall have prior approval of the Board.

Free Admissions

Senior citizens, age 62 years and older may be given a guest pass, upon application to the Superintendent, which shall permit them to attend all activities of the District, including athletic events and adult education courses, free of charge.

Income from Sales and Service

All projects undertaken by students and staff shall avoid competition with local businesses to the best extent possible.

The following rules and procedures shall apply to projects undertaken in the District's shops and facilities:

1. Priority for Service:
 - a. Students enrolled in the course
 - b. District and school District organizations
 - c. District affiliated organizations
 - d. Local public agencies and non-profit organizations
 - e. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of students enrolled in class
 - f. Area senior citizens
 - g. Students enrolled in high school
 - h. Individuals including school District employees
2. Customers shall sign the necessary application and release forms provided by the school,
3. If an automobile is to be wrecked, the registration must be checked,
4. In auto shop, the welding of gasoline tanks and installation of glass is prohibited,
5. Tipping for services is prohibited,
6. All individuals and outside groups shall pay a 50% deposit of estimated cost of materials and parts before the work begins. Adjustments shall be made at the time of final billing,
7. Full payment for all parts or materials and services shall be made before releasing the product to the client,
8. Invoices for all charges shall be issued through the business office and all payment made to the business office or immediately submitted to said office by the person making the collection. To the extent possible, payments should be made by check, and
9. Employees or students shall not realize any financial benefit because of work projects undertaken.

At the annual organizational meeting, the Board shall, in accordance with state law, designate, by resolution, the financial institutions² in which the funds of the District shall be deposited and the proportion of funds to be deposited in each. The Treasurer or Superintendent if delegated by the Treasurer and approved by the Board, shall deposit or cause to be deposited, funds of the District in the institutions as authorized by the Board and in the proportions authorized by the Board.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 21.143; 129.12; 129.15; 380.1221-1222

² MCL 129.15 includes credit unions as an appropriate place of deposit and uses the term “financial institutions,” not just banks or trust companies.

The Board authorizes in accordance with the provisions of law or upon proper authorization on the appropriate form that deductions be made from an employee's paycheck form for the following purposes:

- A. Federal and State income tax
- B. Social Security
- C. Municipal income tax
- D. Public School Employees Retirement System
- E. Michigan Public School Employment Retirement System (MPSERS) Tax
Deferred Payment (TDP) plan

(Other Considerations for the Board to Consider)

- Section 125 deductions (cafeteria plans)
- U.S. Savings Bonds
- Direct deposit in a chartered credit union and/or bank
- Contributions to charitable corporations, not-for-profit, and community fund organizations
- Payment of dues to labor or other organizations (not to include PAC's) for which purpose a fee of **\$125.00** will be charged to cover the actual costs of making the deduction
- Payment of group insurance premiums for a plan in which at least ten percent (10%) of the District employees participate
- Payment for benefits of part-time employees who elect to participate in benefits provided to full-time staff
- Court ordered judgments

To the extent permitted by law and in accordance with the procedures set forth below, the Board of Education declares its willingness to enter into an agreement with any of its employees whereby the employee agrees to take a reduction in salary with respect to amounts earned after the effective date of such agreement in return for the Board's agreement to use a corresponding amount to purchase an annuity for such employee (or group of employees desiring the same annuity company) from any company authorized to transact the business as specified in law in accordance with Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, and in accordance with the District's administrative guidelines. However, it shall be clearly understood that the Board's only function shall be the deduction and remittance of employee funds.

In any case where the employee designates the agent, broker or company through whom the Board shall arrange for the placement or purchase of the tax-sheltered annuity, the agent, broker or company must execute a reasonable service agreement, an information sharing agreement, and/ or other similar agreements as determined at the discretion of the District. The service agreement shall include a provision that protects, indemnifies, and holds the District harmless from any liability attendant to procuring the annuity in accordance with provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and other applicable Federal or State law.

The agent, broker or company must be designated by a number of employees equal to at least one percent (1%) of the Board's full-time employees or at least five (5) employees, whichever is greater (except under no circumstances shall the agent, broker or company need to be designated by more than fifty (50) employees).

The Board may waive this requirement for new employees who have already purchased annuities from an agent, broker or company, not utilized by current employees in the District, while the individuals were employed by another public entity.

The Board may limit the number of participating providers and select approved providers.

The Board, by providing employees with payroll deduction services for annuities, is not providing any financial advice to employees, and is not vouching for the suitability of any investment or any annuity provider. The District assumes no responsibility or liability for any investment decisions or losses with respect to employee annuity purchases.

Said agreement shall comply with all of the provisions of law and may be terminated as said law provides upon notice in writing by either party. Employees shall notify the Superintendent's Office in writing if they wish to participate in such a program.

Approved: February 28, 2013

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1224; 408.477; Mich. OAG 7187 (2006)

The most substantial payment of public funds for the operation of the Westwood Community School District is that which is made to the employees of the Board of Education for services rendered.

Employment of all District personnel whether by the year, term, month, week, day, or hour in contract, temporary, or substitute form must be approved by the Board, except where authority to appoint certain personnel of the District has been delegated to the Superintendent.

Each motion of the Board to employ or reemploy a staff member shall include the name of the individual, the position, title, and the compensation to be paid as prescribed in a negotiated, collective-bargained agreement, or determined by a wage guideline.

Direct Deposit - Payroll Debit Card

Payment of wages shall be by use of direct deposit or payroll debit card, except as provided otherwise pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

Employees' selection between payment by direct deposit or electronic transfer and any subsequent change in election shall be done freely, without intimidation, coercion, or fear of discharge or reprisal for the choice.

The Board shall pay any fees or costs incurred in connection with paying wages or establishing a process for paying wages by direct deposit and payroll debit card.

Approved: February 28, 2013
LEGAL REF: MCL 408.476

The Westwood Community School District, through resolution of the Board, shall be a party to an Automated Clearing House¹ (ACH) arrangement.² The Superintendent shall be responsible for the Westwood Community School District's ACH agreements, including payment approval, accounting, reporting, and generally for overseeing compliance with the ACH policy.³ All ACH invoices are to be approved prior to payment.

Internal Accounting

The Superintendent shall be responsible for development and maintenance of appropriate accounting controls to monitor the use of ACH transactions⁴ made by the Westwood Community School District.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 124.301-124.305

¹ "Automated clearing house" or "ACH" - a national and governmental organization that has authority to process electronic payments, including, but not limited to, the national automated clearing house association and the federal reserve system (MCL 124.301(d)).

² ACH arrangement - the agreement between the originator of the ACH transaction and the receiver of an ACH transaction (MCL 124.301(a)). Under Act 738 of 2002, MCL 124.301, an ACH arrangement is not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101, or to provisions of law or charter concerning the issuance of debt by a local unit.

³ ACH policy - the procedures and internal controls as determined under this written policy developed and adopted by the Superintendent (MCL 124.301(b)).

⁴ ACH transaction - an electronic payment, debit, or credit transfer processed through an automated clearinghouse (MCL 124.301(c)).

For the purposes of accountability of ACH funds, the Superintendent shall submit to the Board a monthly report detailing the goods or services purchased during the preceding month. The report must contain:

- 1) The goods or services purchased and their cost,
- 2) The date of the payment, and
- 3) The unit or department serviced by each payment.

This report may be maintained in the electronic general ledger software system of the District or in a separate report.

Internal Accounting

ACH accounting methods shall follow the established and approved Westwood Community School District accounting procedures.

Accounting Process

1. The Superintendent shall prepare a list of vendors authorized to be paid by ACH transaction, and provide that list to the Business Manager and Accountant.
2. The Business Manager or Accountant shall initiate the transaction upon receipt of an invoice included on the authorized ACH list approved by the appropriate District official. ACH invoices must be approved before payment. The Business Manager shall sign the ACH invoice, which then acts as the warrant and authorize the accountant to initiate the electronic transaction with the vendor, and make the actual transfer of funds.
3. The Business Manager shall present a separate list of the electronic payments made to the Board for review at its next regular meeting. The Board shall approve all transactions prior to disbursement.

4. The Superintendent shall retain all ACH transaction documents for audit purposes.
5. The Business Manager or Accountant shall retain all invoices for audit purposes.

Sample Resolution

For the authorization of Electronic Transactions under PA 738 of 2002, MCL 124.301, the Board hereby recognizes that:

- Electronic payment of public funds are required for some federally mandated transactions involving public funds by electronic payment, debit, or credit transfer processed through an automated clearing house, and
- The Board deems that it is in the best interest of the District to make certain District financial transactions by electronic payments as described in PA 738 of 2002.

It is therefore resolved, that the Board authorizes the District to utilize electronic transactions in compliance with the written procedures and internal controls developed by the Superintendent.

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Resolution Adopted: _____

The Superintendent shall be responsible to see that administrative regulations are established and carried out so that all monies and equipment within all of the District's facilities are safeguarded and accounted for in an efficient manner at all times.

Approved: June 17, 2010

The Superintendent shall establish procedures to permit daily deposit of monies collected which will not require monies to be left in school buildings overnight. The District will not be responsible for monies remaining in school buildings overnight.

Approved: June 17, 2010

In order to assure the safekeeping of monies collected by employees, student Treasurer or officer of a school building, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. All monies shall be properly receipted, accounted for, and directed immediately to the proper location for deposit.
2. No money shall be left overnight in desks, lockers, or other such repositories.
3. All money left overnight in buildings shall be placed in a locked container in the school safe and shall not exceed one hundred-fifty and No/100 (\$150.00).
4. The school Secretary/Accountant shall arrange to make a daily deposit of funds.
5. The building Secretary's will verify all activity account deposits. A deposit slip will be prepared. The money and the deposit slip will be placed in a bank deposit bag and locked or sealed.
6. The bag will be delivered to central office each day.
7. The courier will take the locked/sealed bag to the bank.
8. The bank will unlock/unseal the bag and verify the deposit.
9. If the counted deposit is the same as the deposit slip, the bank will issue a receipt along with the unlocked bag.
10. If the counted deposit is not the same as the deposit slip, the bank teller will contact the Accountant and advise him/her of the discrepancy.

An accounting will be made annually for property, real and personal, owned by the District in accordance with law, governmental regulations, and District rules.

Fixed Asset Accounting System

The administration shall maintain a fixed asset accounting system in accordance with law, governmental regulations and the District's needs.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 34

For the purposes of accountability of school-owned property, the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, shall develop an inventory record system. Annually, all inventory records shall be updated showing deletions and additions of District-owned property, the estimated value, estimated original cost, date of purchase, serial numbers (where available) and location and condition of each piece of property.

Fixed Asset Accounting System

The administration shall maintain a fixed asset accounting system in accordance with law, governmental regulations and District needs. The fixed asset accounting system shall maintain sufficient information to permit the following:

- A. The preparation of year-end financial statements in accordance with law, governmental rules and generally accepted accounting principles,
- B. Adequate insurance coverage, and
- C. Control and accountability.

The Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of the fixed asset accounting system. He/She shall develop procedures to ensure compliance with all fixed asset accounting policies, law or governmental regulation. Each building Principal shall be assigned fixed asset responsibilities.

“Fixed assets” are defined as at least 80% of those tangible assets of the District with a useful life in excess of one year and an initial cost equal to or exceeding \$3,000.00.

In making this determination, the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, generally will use the recognized and accepted “standard useful life table” as published by the Association of School Business Officials International Accounting, Auditing and Budgeting Committee, Subcommittee on GASB Statement No. 34 Implementation. Additionally, the services of a professional property appraisal firm may be used to perform the asset inventory, to provide estimated historical cost information, and to give an objective estimate of the asset’s useful life that will generally be acceptable to auditors.

In determining what assets are to be accounted for in District inventories, the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, will consider the following information sources:

- Original purchase records,
- Bond documents, and
- Professional appraisal or other services, such as insurance appraisals.

The total amount of original debt issuance, where appropriate, to help determine some assets’ historical cost.

Periodically, the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, will review the estimated remaining life of specific fixed assets or groups of assets and adjust the remaining depreciable life accordingly.

Some items may be identified by the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, as "controlled" assets that, although they do not meet all fixed asset criteria, will be recorded on the fixed asset system to maintain control.

Each building Principal has the responsibility of taking an inventory of District-owned property in all buildings under his/her supervision. The Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, will develop inventory forms and procedures. The custodian of records in that building will file one copy of each inventory taken in an attendance center, and one copy shall be filed in the central office.

Additional administrative regulations may be developed at the departmental level by the Superintendent, or administrator in charge of Business Services, as required to implement policy 3490. Upon request, any such rules, regulations, procedures or forms will be shared with the Board for their information.

The accounting records, including internal accounts, of the District shall be audited annually by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with prescribed standards and legal requirements.

The audit report shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board at a public meeting. The management letter and recommendations of the auditor shall be brought to the attention of the Board, along with recommendations of the Superintendent as to the feasibility of implementing the recommendations. The Superintendent shall be responsible for filing the audit reports with all appropriate authorities as prescribed by law or regulation.

The auditing firms selected to conduct the annual audit shall be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board. The auditing firm may be selected on a bid basis. All District employees shall cooperate fully with the auditors.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 388.1618

The Board expects all employees, Board members, consultants, vendors, contractors, and other parties maintaining any business relationship with the District to act with integrity, due diligence, and in accordance with all laws in their duties involving the District's fiscal resources. The District is entrusted with public dollars and no person connected with the District should do anything to erode that trust.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for developing internal controls designed to prevent and detect fraud, financial impropriety, or fiscal irregularities within the District. Every member of the District's administrative team shall be alert for any indication of fraud, financial impropriety, or irregularity within his/her areas of responsibility.

Any employee who suspects fraud, impropriety, or irregularity shall report their suspicions immediately to his/her immediate supervisor and/or the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have primary responsibility for any necessary investigations and shall coordinate investigative efforts with the District's legal counsel, auditing firm, and other internal or external departments and agencies, including the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office and law enforcement officials, as the Superintendent may deem appropriate.

In the event the concern or complaint involves the Superintendent of Schools, the concern shall be brought to the attention of the Vice-President of the Board who shall be empowered to contact the District's legal counsel, auditing firm, and any other agency to investigate the concern or complaint.

The Superintendent may elect to employ the District's auditing firm to conduct a partial forensic/internal control/SAS99 audit annually or otherwise as often as deemed necessary. The Superintendent is authorized to order a complete forensic audit if, in his/her judgment, such an audit would be useful and beneficial to the District.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 14.141-145; 15.361-369; 141.421-440a; 141.2101-141.2821;
380.1202; 380.1215; 380.1216; 380.1363; 388.1618

Fraud, financial improprieties, or irregularities include, but are not limited to:

1. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of any document or account belonging to the District.
2. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document.
3. Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other assets.
4. Impropriety in the handling of money or reporting of financial transactions.
5. Profiteering because of “insider” information of District information or activities.
6. Disclosing confidential and/or proprietary information to outside parties.
7. Accepting or seeking anything of material value, other than items used in the normal course of advertising, from contractors, vendors, or persons providing services to the District.
8. Destroying, removing, or inappropriately using District records, furniture, fixtures, or equipment.
9. Failing to provide financial records to authorized state or local entities.
10. Failure to cooperate fully with any financial auditors or investigators.
11. Any other dishonest or fraudulent act involving District monies or resources.

The Superintendent shall investigate reports of fraudulent activity in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the parties and the facts. All employees involved in the investigation shall be advised to keep information about the investigation confidential.

If an investigation substantiates the occurrence of a fraudulent activity, the Superintendent, or Board Vice-President if the investigation centers on the Superintendent, shall issue a report to appropriate personnel and to the Board. The final disposition of the matter and any decision to file or not file a criminal complaint or to refer the matter to the appropriate law enforcement and/or regulatory agency for independent investigation shall be made in consultation with District legal counsel. The results of the investigation shall not be disclosed to or discussed with anyone other than those individuals with a legitimate right to know until the results are made public.

At the annual organizational meeting, the Board shall authorize the signatures of those persons who may sign checks upon the various accounts of the District. Facsimile signatures may be used as authorized by the Board.

Approved: June 17, 2010

The Superintendent may establish a petty cash fund in the central office, any building or division or department in which he/she determines a need.

Approved: June 17, 2010

The Superintendent may establish a petty cash account not to exceed \$200.00 in the central office and in each building not to exceed \$150.00. The person in charge of the fund, on a form provided, may replenish petty cash funds only upon presentation of an itemized statement. Petty cash funds shall be reconciled monthly. Petty cash funds shall not be used for the following purposes, by way of illustration and not limitation: Travel, meals, or conference expenditures in excess of \$20.00, school supplies exceeding \$25.00, and any other expenditure exceeding \$25.00 for buildings and \$50.00 for central office. Petty cash funds will not be used for salaries or casual labor, telephone, loans, or advances to staff or the cashing of personal checks.

All employees shall be paid according to a specific schedule that shall be determined annually by the Board. All salaries, supplements, and payments for extra duties shall be paid from the payroll account through the District's business office. No payments shall be made directly to any school personnel for services rendered from any supplementary school fund.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1224

No employee shall be paid in advance of services rendered. Personnel receiving extra pay for extracurricular activities that are reasonable shall be paid in full at the completion of the activity.

A payroll deduction for organizational membership dues associated with employment may be made pursuant to a written request of an individual employee and validation by the organization involved, provided it complies with the provisions of master agreements with the employee organization.

Except for deductions for absences not covered by paid leave, required by law or contract, all salary deductions shall be subject to the Superintendent's or Board's approval. All deductions not mandated by law shall require authorization by the employee through the Superintendent's office.

District personnel, or members of the Board, who incur expenses in carrying out their authorized duties shall be reimbursed by the District to the extent approved or provided in Board policies or duly negotiated agreements upon submission of an approved voucher and supporting receipts. Such expenses may be approved and incurred in line with budgetary allocations for the specific type of expense.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.321-330; 129.221 et. seq.; 129.241 et. seq.

When official travel by personally owned vehicle has been authorized, mileage payment shall be made at the rate currently approved by the Board. For employees covered by flat allowance per month or per year, the mileage rate shall apply when the employee uses his/her personal automobile on authorized school business outside the District.

Credit/Procurement Card

If District personnel or members of the Board are issued a District credit/procurement card for direct billing, it is the responsibility of the individual to indicate on the credit slip the kind of activity being charged. Upon returning to the District, all charge slips are to be submitted to the business office as soon as possible, along with the credit/procurement card unless the Board member or employee has been authorized to maintain possession of the credit/procurement card.

Spouses, Family Members, and Others

Expenses of spouses, other family members, or any non-District employees accompanying Board members or employees in discharging their official duties or performing authorized functions are not reimbursable. Board members or employees using a District credit/procurement card may incur charges for spouses, family members, or other non-District employees, but shall reimburse the District for any such charges.

Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Neither alcoholic beverages nor any tobacco products may be charged to any District credit/procurement card, nor will reimbursement be paid for any expenditure for alcoholic beverages or tobacco products.

Authorization for Travel

The employee's immediate supervisor and Superintendent must approve all travel. The appropriate forms must be completed prior to departure.

1. A Conference Request Form must be submitted no later than three weeks prior to the meeting; and
2. Estimated expenses must be within appropriate budget allocations.

An Approval of Request Form signed by the Superintendent shall constitute certification for authorized travel. Certain employees shall be authorized by the Superintendent to travel locally in the performance of their duties and submit expense vouchers for reimbursement.

Methods of Travel

1. Travels by Common Carrier:

When a common carrier is authorized as the means of travel, the business office shall obtain reservations and tickets for the individual unless precluded by an emergency. Round-trip tickets for coach, tourist or economy class rates over the same or a permissible substitute route are to be purchased whenever they will lower the total cost, unless authorized travel to several points precludes the use of a round-trip ticket.

2. Travels by Private Automobile:

- a. Reimbursement for travel by private car should generally be authorized only under the following circumstances, with the reason indicated on the authorization form:

- 1) When common carrier service is not available without undue loss of time or unless common carrier use would be more expensive to the District. If the traveler makes the choice, maximum reimbursement shall be limited to the lower of the mileage or common carrier cost,
- 2) When two or more persons are eligible for similar authorized travel and riding together would mean a saving to the District. The Superintendent is responsible for making such a determination before approving the travel request,

- 3) When use of an automobile will permit the traveler to make stops en route and perform his/her duties more effectively, and
 - 4) When the use of an automobile will not require the traveler to be away from his/her duties for a substantially longer period than travel by common carrier.
- b. Driving Extra Cars: Where two or more staff members could ride together on authorized travel, but choose to drive separately, any mileage reimbursement for which one of them might be eligible under (1) above, should be split among them. The toll and parking charges for the extra car or cars are not reimbursable.
3. Use of District-Provided Vehicles:
- A. Official District Travel
When authorized, travelers shall be reimbursed for all expenses in connection with the use of District cars and trucks, provided the claim for such expenses is supported by receipts.
 - B. Travel to Professional Meetings
Approval may be given to qualified staff members for the use of District-owned vehicles for travel to professional meetings when other methods of travel are unsuitable or when the trip can be made at less expense to the District. A qualified staff member must drive.
4. Travels by Rented Vehicles:
Under certain circumstances, the use of a rental car may be necessary. The Superintendent must approve rental car service at the site of a conference to which a person travels by common carrier. In requesting such use, rationale must be presented which will justify the necessity of such use or its advantage to the District.
5. Travels by Charter Air Service:

The use of charter air service may be authorized when it is to the advantage of the District measured by both comparative travel costs and the time of the travelers.

Drivers of District-Provided Vehicles

Qualifications:

1. Qualified full-time staff members may drive these vehicles when engaged in official District business, provided they have a licensed and have adequate experience in driving the type of vehicle assigned,
2. The staff member to whom a District vehicle is assigned is the District's representative in full charge of the trip, and
3. Students may not drive District-owned vehicles unless driving is part of driver education programs.

Reimbursable Expenses

1. Lodging (actual room cost),
2. Meals,
3. Conference registration fees,
4. Parking and tolls,
5. Common carrier transportation within limitations above,
6. Use of private vehicle within limitations above,
7. Postage, telephone and fax charge for business purposes, and
8. Charge for baggage service, tips (not to exceed 15 percent).

Advances

Request for an advance to pay expenses at a conference shall be made at the time application is made and shall be approved by the Superintendent. A maximum of 80 percent of the estimated cost may be advanced. Immediately upon return, a financial accounting, including documentation, shall be made to the business office and any unused funds returned. All receipts must be submitted to the Business Office within 14 days from the completion of the event. Expenditures not documented shall not be reimbursed by the District. Petty cash funds may not be used for cash advances.

Daily Travel

Local travel as authorized under these regulations is to be recorded on a daily basis and submitted to the business office at the end of each month for reimbursement. Voucher must include, date, destination, purpose of travel, and number of miles for each trip and approved by the supervisor.

All requests for reimbursement for travel during a fiscal year shall be submitted to the business office by June 30 of that year.

Westwood Community School District
Convention/Conference/Workshop Evaluation
Form 20

Attendee Name: _____ School _____

Position _____

Title of Program: _____

Location of Program: _____

Date of Attendance: _____

Highlights:

Summary of Program:

What were the benefits to: (1) You personally? (2) The School District?

1.

2.

What recommendations, regarding the Program, would like to make that you believe would be a benefit to the District?

Overall rating of Program: Excellent Good Fair Poor

Prepare three copies. Keep one, give two to the principal, one of which will be forwarded to the Professional Development Committee. This report is to be submitted along with Form 19. (Conference & Convention Expense Report)

Total Expenses: _____

WESTWOOD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CONFERENCE/CONVENTION/WORKSHOP EXPENSE REPORT
Form 19

Name of Program: _____

Location of Program: _____

Date of Program: _____

ACTUAL EXPENSES:

I certify that this conference was approved, and to the best of my knowledge, the items of expense listed herein were incurred on behalf of the District.

Lodging _____
Transportation _____
Meals _____
Parking _____
Other _____

TOTAL: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____ School/Department: _____

Approval for Payment:

Principal/Supervisor

Superintendent/Other Administrator

The following items must be attached to this expense sheet:

- 1. Hotel Bill
- 2. Transportation receipt or itemize mileage on back of sheet
- 3. Receipts for meals Or itemize on back of sheet
- 4. Receipts for other expenses or itemize on back of sheet

Submit Evaluation of Conference (Form 20) to Principal/Superintendent's office.

FOR CENTRAL OFFICE

AMOUNT EXPENDED \$ _____ Charge to Account # _____

LESS ADVANCE \$ _____

AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED \$ _____

Yellow Copy: Business Office White Copy: Payroll Dept Pink Copy: Requestee--do not submit

Westwood Community School District
Statement of Expenses Incurred
Form 19

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION
Westwood Community School District
3335 South Beech Daly Road
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48125

DATE:

NOTE: Please itemize expenses carefully. The use of pen and ink will be appreciated.

DATE	PLACE	TOTAL MILEAGE	AMOUNT
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS

Account No. _____ Amount _____

Signature _____

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the issuance, accounting, monitoring, retrieval, internal controls and generally overseeing the use of District credit or procurement cards for Board members and employees.

Issuance

District employees may be issued a District credit or procurement card that shall be used solely for the purchase of goods and/or services needed for official business of the District.

Documentation

When an employee uses a District credit or procurement card, documentation shall be provided the Superintendent within five (5) business days detailing the goods or services purchased, the cost of such goods or services, the date of purchase, and the purpose for which such goods or services were purchased.

Lost Credit/Procurement Cards

Each employee issued a credit/procurement card is responsible for the protection and custody of the District credit/procurement card. If a District credit/procurement card is lost or stolen, the Superintendent shall be notified immediately.

Return of Credit/Procurement Cards

A District employee who is no longer employed by the District shall return the credit/procurement card upon termination to the Superintendent, but no later than five calendar days after termination.

Payment

The Board shall approve all District credit/procurement card invoices prior to payment. Such payments shall be made no later than 60 days after receipt of the initial statement date.

Misuse and Unauthorized Use

An employee who violates a provision of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Superintendent.

If the Superintendent violates a provision of this policy, he/she shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Board.

Other Provisions

The total combined authorized credit limit of all credit/procurement cards issued by the District shall not exceed 5% of the total budget of the District for the current fiscal year.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.321-330; 129.221 et. seq.; 129.241 et. seq.; 380.1254

The District may include in its budget and pay the balance due on any credit/procurement cards, including the annual fees and interest.

There shall be a system of internal accounting controls to monitor the use of credit/procurement cards.

The Superintendent or administrator in charge of business/finance is authorized and encouraged to develop categories of the type of credit/procurement card purchases that may be made by District employees.

The Superintendent shall be the sole purchasing agent for the District.

Purchasing from District Employees

The Board shall not purchase equipment, supplies, or services from an employee of the District, nor from a member of a household of an employee, nor from any firm in which an employee or member of his/her household holds a financial interest.

Purchases through the District

Board members and employees shall not make any purchase through the District for personal use. The name of the District or school, or an employee's position, shall not be used in such manner that discounts or cost preferences are given to such person.

Purchasing equipment and supplies by the District for resale to employees is prohibited.

Emergency Purchases

Emergency purchases may be made without using the quotation or bidding process. Such emergencies may arise because of an accident or other unforeseen occurrence that could affect the life, health, welfare, or safety of the District's students or employees or the ability of the District to conduct normal operations.

Approved: June 17, 2010

LEGAL REF: MCL 15.321-330; 380.1216; 380.1274

In order to properly oversee the purchasing function and protect the resources of the District, the following administrative rules shall apply to policy 3610. These rules shall apply equally to all employees of the District regardless of assignment.

1. No employee has authority to sign any contract for the purchase of any goods or services, nor encumber the District with any debts or obligations beyond the amount of \$500.00 without the specific, written permission of the Superintendent of Schools. Should he/she so desire, the Superintendent might issue written authorizations annually to certain District employees that authorizes expenditures of more than \$500.00 on a limited basis and for specific reasons.
2. Any expenditure for goods or services of \$500.00 or less is authorized only if such expenditures are chargeable, specifically, to an appropriate budget line item in the budget adopted by the Board of Education.
3. The Superintendent, or a person designated specifically by the Superintendent, shall be empowered to sign lease agreements on behalf of the District regardless of duration of the lease or the amount of the expenditure. It shall be the general practice of the District that, with the exception of technology equipment, such as computers, printers, scanners, copying machines, and the like, and certain transportation equipment, no lease shall be entered into that encumbers the District and the Board for more than a two-year period.
4. Any employee violating or attempting to circumvent these rules will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. In addition, the Superintendent has authority to pursue any legal remedy necessary to seek restitution from the offending employee for any outstanding debts or obligations incurred by the District because of the employee's violation of these rules, subject to applicable collective bargaining agreements and law.

5. All vendors doing business with the District, or seeking to do business with the District, will be informed of these rules. Any vendor who seeks to circumvent or violate these rules might be barred, permanently, from doing business with the District.

In the event of an emergency such as a power failure, severe cold weather or other such natural disasters, the Superintendent shall have the authority to purchase capital equipment needed to keep the schools of the District open or to reopen the schools. The Board, at a special or regular meeting as soon as possible after the purchase is made, shall approve any such purchases.

Such purchases shall not be made to circumvent the purposes of the competitive bid law.

Approved: June 17, 2010

The Superintendent is authorized to consider, and recommend for Board approval, membership in cooperative purchasing organizations that would be of benefit to the District.

Cooperative purchasing also pertains to what is commonly referred to as “third party bids.” Third party bidding shall constitute a competitive bid for purposes of policy 3660 - Competitive Bids.

Approved: June 17, 2010

All purchases requiring competitive bids shall be made in accordance with current statutes, the creation of bid specifications, and adherence to the District's bidding procedure by the District's purchasing agent.

The purchasing agent shall develop and maintain lists of potential bidders for various types of materials, equipment, and supplies. Such bid lists shall be used in the development of mailing lists for distribution of specifications and invitations to bid.

Any supplier may be included in the list upon request. The purchasing agent shall review all bid lists annually.

A copy of this policy shall be given to all bidders upon creation of bid lists and upon request.

All bids and supporting documentation shall be retained in the District office with the Superintendent for a period of one year after bids have been opened.

Competitive Bids

No purchases shall be made of supplies, materials or equipment in a single transaction costing more than allowed under current law unless competitive bids for those goods and services are obtained and the Board approves the purchase.

Bid Specifications

The District's purchasing agent shall write all bid specifications in a clear and concise manner. Such specifications shall include, when necessary: required performance, surety, bid and statutory bond information; compliance with preferential bid law; financial statements; the Board's right to reject any or all bids; compliance with all federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations; the date, time and place for the opening of bids; and other items as the Board directs.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1267; 380.1274

Non-Competitive Bid Purchases

Non-competitive bid purchases may be made when there is only one supply source provided the amount does not exceed bidding requirement limitation.

Informal Quotations

Verbal quotations of price on equal products or services secured in person or by telephone may be used in purchases for routine supplies used by the District.

The Superintendent shall make available to the Board, upon request, the price quotations, or competitive bids obtained from vendors for goods or services.

Formal Bid Quotations

The Superintendent is authorized to purchase any item, or group of items in a single transaction, costing no more than allowed under current law, upon the receipt of at least three written bid quotations provided said purchase is within the approved budget. The Superintendent shall use discretion in deciding whether such purchases are made based on requested quotations or through advertising for bids.

Competitive Bids on Building Construction, Renovation, and Repairs

Prior to commencing construction of a new building, or additions to or repair or renovation of an existing building costing more than allowed under current law, the Board shall obtain competitive bids on all material and labor to be required to complete the proposed construction, addition, repair or renovation. Repair work normally done by District employees is exempted from this bidding requirement.

The Board shall advertise for bids at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the building or addition is to be constructed, or where the repair or renovation of the building is to take place. The Board shall also post an advertisement for bids on the Department of Management and Budget's website for at least two weeks if the department has designated a website for this purpose.

If the Department of Management and Budget designates a school organization website for advertisement purposes, the Department shall include a link on its website to the school organization website.

Such advertisements shall include:

- The date and time that the bids must be received by the Board,
- A statement specifying that the Board will not accept late submissions,
- The date, time, and place the bids will be opened and read by the Board's representative, and
- A statement specifying that each bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship between the owner or employee of the bidder and any member of the Board or the Superintendent of the school District. The Board shall not accept any bids that do not contain this sworn and notarized statement.

Procedure

All bids must be submitted to the Superintendent in sealed envelopes with the name of the bidder and the date of the bid opening plainly marked in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope. All timely received bids shall be opened, read aloud, and examined by the Board's representative at the public meeting specified in the advertisement for bids. No bid shall be opened, considered, or accepted before the date and time specified for bid submission in the advertisement. All bidders and other interested persons are invited to be present when the bids are opened.

Bids not involving building construction, renovation and repairs may be opened by the purchasing agent or other person designated by the Board and one other District employee shall witness such opening. The bids shall then be arranged in order from low to high before they are presented to the Board for action.

Responsible Bidder

All bids shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The Board remains the sole judge of whether or not a bidder is “responsible.” Criteria that may be used to judge “responsible,” by way of illustration and not limitation, are financial standing, reputation, experience, resources, facilities, judgment, and efficiency.

The Board may investigate the business reputation of any bidder by using information at hand to form an intelligent judgment, such as the District's architect, previous clients of the bidder, their own investigation, or an outside investigation agency.

Bid Specifications

The Board shall avoid negotiation of bid specifications after bids have been accepted and shall correct and request new bids if specifications are inadequately written.

If an error is discovered in the bid specifications, all bids shall be returned unopened and the project shall be re-bid using corrected and/or amended specifications.

Any bid submitted to the District may be withdrawn prior to the scheduled time for opening of bids.

Any bid received after the Board publicized date and time shall not be considered.

Rejection of Bids

The Board reserves the right to reject all bids and to ask for new bids. Such reservation shall be so specified in the publication or notification of bid letting.

The Board reserves the right to waive any informality in, or reject any part of, a bid.

The Board shall purchase school equipment and supplies from local vendors whenever possible, providing that price, quality, and service of the local vendor compare favorably with those from non-local vendors. Bids shall be solicited from non-local vendors in order to establish a fair market price for equipment and supplies.

Local vendors shall be given preference if their bid or quoted price is within five percent of the low bid or quoted price, not to exceed a maximum of \$100.00, if all other matters are equal. Local purchases shall be divided among several local vendors when appropriate. The Superintendent shall make all authorized purchases, as he/she deems best after carefully weighing all matters.

Approved: June 17, 2010

Vendors shall make contacts through the Superintendent or designee. Vendors shall not contact other administrators or school employees directly unless such contact is approved or authorized by the Superintendent or designee.

Approved: June 17, 2010

The Superintendent shall authorize demonstrations of equipment by vendors.

No Board member or District employee shall accept gifts from any persons, group or entity desiring to do business with the District; and all business-related gratuities are specifically prohibited except nominal value advertising items widely distributed with a market value of \$100 or less.

The Superintendent shall alert vendors of the Board's policy concerning gifts.

Employees shall not endorse products or services in a manner that will identify them with the District. The Board, the purchasing department, or employees of the school shall not solicit funds from vendors however worthy the purpose.

The Board or Superintendent may give written approval in advance for inspection trips or other informational trips at a vendor's expense.

Samples for evaluation, supplied free of charge by a vendor, may be accepted if:

1. The business office is notified of the acceptance and given a copy of the evaluation report,
2. No pressure, either direct or indirect, is brought on a supplier to provide such samples unless required of all suppliers as a specific provision of a bid or quotation request, and
3. All suppliers are given the opportunity to provide samples for evaluation.

Payment of bills shall be considered by the Board at regular Board meetings, upon recommendation by the Superintendent.

Upon receipt of a request for payment by a District vendor, and upon receipt of all goods or satisfactory completion of all services from said vendor, the Board may authorize payment to said vendor within 30 days and full payment within 45 days.

The Board may designate one or more employees to pay bills in advance of any Board meeting in order to avoid a penalty for late payment or to take advantage of an early payment discount.

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Soliciting Funds From and By Students

The Board recognizes the existence of many worthwhile community and student activities that require the raising of funds by the sale of merchandise, tickets, or perhaps direct requests for money. Because of the need to safeguard students in the educational program, the Board limits participation of students to those activities that have the building Principal and/or Superintendent's approval under this policy.

It is the responsibility of the Board to provide the necessary basic texts, materials, supplies, equipment, buildings, and facilities to conduct the approved, basic educational programs of the District. Co-curricular and school-sponsored extra-curricular programs of the District, however, such as athletic programs, school-sponsored student clubs, and curriculum-related field trips or excursions may require financial support beyond that which the District can provide in order to survive. Community and school fund raising organizations may contribute to the enrichment of basic programs or to co-curricular and extra-curricular activities through the contribution of funds and/or items as long as those contributions have been determined consistent with the above and approved by the Superintendent through the appropriate building or program administrator.

This policy is not to affect those regular school programs such as dramatics or musical concerts, etc., where students might be selling tickets for an activity in which they are taking part. Elementary students will not be asked to sell tickets for middle school or senior high school activities.

If a fund raising project is conducted to sponsor a specific purchase, activity or trip, the purchase or trip must be approved prior to initiation of the fund raising effort. This shall apply to school related groups as well as to school-community organizations.

Every attempt shall be made to coordinate fund raising activities among buildings and various organizations in order that excessive demands are not made upon members of the community.

Such coordination is especially important at Christmas or other holiday times when innumerable items are available for sale by the students.

Student Groups

The Principal must approve all fund raising events in advance. Requests must be on an approved application form and submitted to the Principal at least one month prior to the proposed activity.

Only school-sponsored groups may sell or solicit in a school building and then only within the school housing the group, and only during non-instructional time.

Students shall not sell or solicit for purposes of school fund raising outside the boundaries of the District except as part of a booth at a fair, shopping center, or other locations where potential “customers” are coming to them. Advertisements and sales may be solicited from establishments outside the District boundaries only if there is an apparent community of interest.

Door-to-Door Sales

The District will not sponsor fund raising events requiring door-to-door sales.

Specifics

- A. Fund raising projects for special trips or special projects should not be started until approval of the trip or project is granted. Trips covered by this policy shall include out-of-state and overnight trips, as well as trips to foreign countries. (Cf. 7490 – Field Trips)
- B. Any sale of commercial products or the solicitation of funds through contracts with businesses shall require approval of the building Principal before any oral commitment, written agreement, or contract is made or any advance publicity or group promotional activity is undertaken. Once approved however, before sales begin or solicitations are made, contract agreements must be signed by the building Principal.

- C. Fund raising projects shall be compatible with the school's policies, purpose, goals, and general community expectations, and shall not conflict with local business enterprises unduly.
- D. The District shall transfer funds remaining in accounts of student organizations that have been inactive for two years or in accounts of classes that have been graduated for two years to accounts of other co-curricular organizations or to the District's general fund upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

Adult Groups

School-related adult organizations raising funds that are to be used primarily for the improvement of the educational or athletic program must submit a written request through the Principal to the Superintendent. This request should be submitted one month in advance and identify the date(s) and nature of the activity (ies). No fund raising activity should commence until approval has been granted. The purpose is not to limit the activities of these groups unduly, but rather to:

1. Be assured that students are not being "used" or their educational program interrupted.
2. Assist with coordination of activities so that similar activities are not in conflict with each other.
3. Be assured of the appropriateness of the activity and that all fund raising activities, and the use/expenditure of the funds raised therefrom, comply with local, state, and federal laws⁵ and regulations.

⁵ A school district that accepts outside financial assistance and allows vast gender differences to emerge at the hands of a third party (the private booster club) may face claims of federal Title IX violations. Title IX regulations caution that to "aid or perpetuate discrimination" by providing "significant assistance" to any organization that provides benefits or services to students is a violation of Title IX. (34 C.F.R. § 106.3 (6)). "Where [athletic] 'booster clubs' provide benefits and services that assist only teams of one sex, the institution shall ensure that teams of the other sex receive equivalent benefits and services." *Title IX Athletics Investigator's Manual*, Office of Civil Rights.

Some courts have ruled that the Board is liable for fund raising activities of such groups if the money raised benefits a particular school, the District, in general, or its organizations.

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LEGAL REF: Gaincott v Davis, 281 Mich 515; 275 NW 229 (1937); Cook v Bennett, 94 Mich App 93; 288 NW2d 609 (1979); Title IX (34 C.F.R. § 106.3(6)); Title IX Athletics Investigator's Manual, Office of Civil Rights.

Expenditures and Reports

Each student activity fund shall have a District employee, recommended by the building Principal, and approved by the Superintendent, in charge of said fund. The custodian of the fund shall be responsible for making reports of the student activity fund to the Superintendent as requested, but in no event, less than once per semester. The Superintendent shall share the information with the Board.

The report shall show opening and closing balances of each fund, the total amount of deposits, and an itemized list of expenditures.

All payments from student activity funds shall be made from purchase orders signed by the custodian of the fund.

The District shall assume control of all inactive activity organization funds and disburse those funds to the activity account selected or expend the funds as directed by the Board in the best interests of students.

The Superintendent is authorized to dispose of surplus obsolete books, equipment, and supplies. All transactions shall be reported to the Board and an equal opportunity for any purchases shall be given to everyone. When proceeds from the sale are expected to be over \$200.00 per unit or in a single sale, notification shall be made through the regular school publications, intra-District communications, news releases and/or paid advertising as determined by the Board. Obsolete materials which cannot be sold may, with the approval from the Superintendent, be donated to charitable organizations or discarded. All such transactions shall be reported to the Board of Education.

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LEGAL REF: MCL 380.11a

Annually, prior to June 30, the administrator of each building shall supply the Superintendent with a list of books, equipment, or other saleable items that may be considered obsolete. The Superintendent shall verify said list.

The Superintendent shall determine the means of sale and provide notification of materials to be sold and the method of sale to the general public and those parties, which in his/her estimation, would be interested in such items. A public notice shall be circulated at least 10 days before the sale and the items for sale fully described. Monies realized from such sales shall be credited to the appropriate fund account.

Obsolete books, equipment, or supplies that cannot be sold may, at the discretion of the Superintendent, be donated to charitable organizations or discarded in an acceptable manner.

The sale of a single item or items in aggregate, whose estimated value exceeds \$200, shall be approved by the Superintendent and sold by sealed bid.

A record shall be maintained by the Superintendent of all properties disposed of consistent with state and/or federal regulations.

The sale or disposal of District land or buildings shall require Board authorization.
The Board shall determine the method and procedure of disposal.

Approved: June 17, 2010
LEGAL REF: MCL 380.11a

Whenever any land or buildings owned by the District are placed on the market for sale, public notification shall be made and all interested parties shall be given an equal opportunity for purchase.

An appraisal of District owned property shall be requested from an independent appraiser. However, the Board may set a price, which in its judgment, is fair and may reject any or all offers relative to such sale.

Before a sale is completed, the potential use of the property shall be considered, particularly as it may affect the neighborhood in which it is located. The sale of the property for educational use shall be given priority.

Money resulting from the sale of property shall be deposited in the general fund of the District unless otherwise directed by the Board or unless there is a bond issue outstanding on the facilities, in which case the receipts from the sale shall be deposited in the debt retirement fund established for that building project.