

Clawson Public Schools

Bylaws & Policies

6320 - PURCHASING

Each year the State of Michigan informs the School of the legal amount for purchases which require a formal bidding process of a single item.

It is the policy of the Board that the Superintendent adhere to the following: Seek informal price quotations on purchases that are under the amount allowed by State statute for a single item, except in cases of emergency or when the materials purchased are of such a nature that price negotiations would not result in a savings to the School.

Purchases that are in excess of the dollar amount permitted by State statute shall, whenever possible, have at least three (3) competitive bids for substantiation of purchase and shall require approval of the Board prior to approval to purchase.

Bids shall be sealed and shall be opened by the Superintendent or designee in the presence of at least one (1) witness. All orders or contracts should be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; however, consideration can be given to:

- A. the quality of the item(s) to be supplied;
- B. its conformity with specifications;
- C. suitability to the requirements of the school;
- D. delivery terms;
- E. past performance of vendor.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

The Superintendent is authorized to purchase all items within budget allocations.

The Superintendent is authorized to make emergency purchases, without prior approval, of those goods and/or services needed to keep the school in operation. Such purchases shall be brought to the Board's attention.

Whenever storage facilities or other conditions make it impractical to receive total delivery at any one time, the total quantity to be shipped but with staggered delivery dates, shall be made a part of the bid specifications.

Before placing a purchase order, the Superintendent shall check as to whether the proposed purchase is subject to bid, whether sufficient funds exist in the budget, and whether the material might be available elsewhere in the school.

In the interests of economy, fairness, and efficiency in its business dealings, the Board requires that:

- A. opportunity be provided to as many responsible suppliers as possible to do business with the school;
- B. a prompt and courteous reception, insofar as conditions permit, be given to all who call on legitimate business matters;
- C. where the requisitioner has recommended a supplier, the Superintendent may make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in his/her judgment, better service, delivery, economy, or utility can be achieved by changing the proposed order.

The Superintendent shall determine the amount of purchase which shall be allowed without a properly signed purchase order. Employees may be held personally responsible for anything purchased without a properly signed purchase order or authorization.

The Board may acquire office equipment as defined in law by lease, by installment payments, by entering into lease-purchase agreements, or by lease with an option to purchase, provided the contract sets forth the terms of such a purchase. Lease - purchase agreements are subject to the bid requirements of the State of Michigan.

Procurement – Federal Grants

The Superintendent shall maintain a procurement and contract administration system in accordance with the USDOE requirements (34 CFR 80.36) for the administration and management of Federal grants and federally-funded programs. The District shall maintain a compliance system that requires contractors to perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. Except as otherwise noted, procurement transactions shall conform to the provisions of this policy and administrative guidelines (AG 6320).

M.C.L.A. 380.1267, 380.1274 et seq.

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6423 - USE OF PURCHASE CARDS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of an efficient method of payment and recordkeeping for certain expenses.

The Board, therefore, authorizes the use of District purchase cards. The authorization, handling and use of purchase cards have been established to provide a convenient and efficient means to purchase goods and services from vendors. Purchase cards, however, shall not be used in order to circumvent the general purchasing procedures established by State law and Board policy. The Board affirms that purchase cards shall only be used in connection with Board-approved or school-related activities and that only those types of expenses that are for the benefit of the District and serve a valid and proper public purpose shall be paid for by purchase card. However, under no circumstances shall purchase cards be used for personal purchases or the purchase of alcoholic beverages regardless of whether the purchase of such beverages is made in connection with a meal.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines that specify those authorized to use purchase cards, the types of expenses which can be paid by purchase card, and their proper supervision and use. Inappropriate or illegal use of the purchase card and/or failure to strictly comply with the limitations and requirements set forth in the administrative guidelines may result in a loss of purchase card privileges, disciplinary action, up to and including termination, personal responsibility for any and all inappropriate charges, including finance charges and interest assessed in connection with the purchase, and/or possible referral to law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for giving direction to and supervising such employees' use of District purchase card(s).

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6440 - COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

The Board of Education recognizes the advantages of centralized purchasing in that volume buying tends to maximize value for each dollar spent. The Board, therefore, encourages the administration to seek advantages in savings that may accrue to this District through joint agreements for the purchase of supplies, equipment, or services with the governing body(ies) of other governmental units.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to negotiate such joint purchase agreements for services, supplies, and equipment which may be determined to be required from time to time by the Board and which the Board may otherwise lawfully purchase for itself, with governmental contracting units as may be appropriate in accordance with State law, the policies of this Board, and the dictates of sound purchasing procedures.

Cooperative or joint purchases require an agreement approved by the Board and the participating contracting body(ies) which shall specify the categories of equipment and supplies to be purchased; the manner of advertising for bids and of awarding contracts; the method of payment by each participating party and such other matters as may be deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the agreement. Such agreements are subject to all legal bidding requirements.

M.C.L.A. 124.1 et seq.