

Book	BOARD POLICIES
Section	6000 BP - Finances
Title	PURCHASING
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PURCHASING

Reference:

MCL 380.1267, 380.1274 et seq.

Procurement of all supplies, materials, equipment, and services paid for from School funds shall be made in accordance with all applicable federal and State statutes, Board policies, and administrative procedures. Standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts are established in Policy 1130, and Policy 3110 (as applicable) – Conflict of Interest.

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner that encourages full and open competition and in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment.

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 Educational Service Provider adhere to the following:

- A. Seek informal price quotations on purchases that are under fifty percent (50%) of 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.
- B. When the purchase of, and contract for, single items of supplies, materials, or equipment is:
 - 1. in excess of fifty percent (50%) but less than the amount allowed by State statute, the Educational Service Provider shall, whenever possible, require three (3) competitive price quotations.
 - 2. less than the amount allowed by State statute, but exceeds \$21,825 the Educational Service Provider shall, whenever possible, require three (3) competitive price quotations.
 - 3. less than the amount allowed by State statute, but exceeds \$21,825 the Educational Service Provider shall, whenever possible, have at least three (3) competitive bids.

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

Competitive Bids

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 the vendor.

This preference shall not apply to any procurement or project using Federal funds, nor shall it be used if it would violate any Federal law or requirements.

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

Bid Protest

A bidder who wishes to file a bid protest must file such notice and follow procedures prescribed by the Request For Proposals (RFP) or the individual bid specifications package, for resolution. Bid protests must be filed in writing with the Educational Service Provider within seventy-two (72) hours of the opening of the bids in protest.

Within five (5) days of receipt of a protest, the Educational Service Provider shall review the protest as submitted and render a decision regarding the merits of the protest and any impact on the acceptance and rejection of bids submitted. Notice of the filing of a bid protest shall be communicated to the Board and shall be so noted in any subsequent recommendation for the acceptance of bids and awarding of contracts.

Failure to file a notice of intent to protest, or failure to file a formal written protest within the time prescribed, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings.

General Provisions

The Educational Service Provider is authorized to purchase all items within budget allocations.

The Board should be advised, for prior approval, of all purchases of equipment, materials, and services when the purchase was not contemplated during the budgeting process.

The Educational Service Provider is authorized to make emergency purchases, without prior approval, of those goods and/or services needed to keep the Schools in operation. Such purchases shall be brought to the Board's attention at the next regular meeting.

In order to promote efficiency and economy in the operation of the School, the Board requires that the Educational Service Provider periodically estimate requirements for standard items or classes of items and make quantity purchases on a bid basis to procure the lowest cost consistent with good quality.

Before placing a purchase order, the Educational Service Provider 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. All purchase orders shall be numbered consecutively.

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 Educational Service Provider may make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in the Educational Service Provider's judgment, better service, delivery, economy, or utility can be achieved by changing the proposed order;
- D. upon the placement of a purchase order, the Educational Service Provider shall commit the expenditure against a specific line item to guard against the creation of liabilities in excess of appropriations.

The Educational Service Provider 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.

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