

**Monitored** **Mandated** **Other Reasons****Policy**

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CONCEPTS AND ROLES IN BUSINESS AND NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS;  
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Fiscal Management

The board of education recognizes that money and money management are a necessary support of the whole school program. To make that support as effective as possible, the board intends:

- A. To encourage financial planning through the best possible budget procedures;
- B. To explore all practical sources of dollar income;
- C. To guide the expenditure of funds so as to extract the greatest educational returns;
- D. To expect top-quality accounting and reporting procedures; to adopt and implement sound fiscal procedures. The business administrator shall prepare a manual of procedures to ensure that all business operations of the district are carried out uniformly, efficiently and in accordance with law and board policy;
- E. To maintain a level of per pupil expenditure sufficient to provide high quality education.

Support Services

The board of education expects operation and maintenance of the school plant and equipment to set high standards of safety, to maintain the health of pupils and staff, to reflect the aspirations of the community, to support environmentally the efforts of the staff to provide a good education and to preserve the community's major investment.

In order to provide services that sufficiently support the educational program, the board establishes as broad goals:

- A. To provide a physical environment for teaching and learning that is safe and pleasant for pupils, staff, and public;
- B. To provide safe transportation for eligible pupils;
- C. To make nutritious meals available to pupils;
- D. To provide resources, facilities and assistance to meet the needs of the educational program as they develop.

CONCEPTS AND ROLES IN BUSINESS AND NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS; GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (continued)

Long-range Plans

In compliance with law, the chief school administrator will develop a five-year comprehensive maintenance plan. The board will review this plan, and the district's long-range facilities plan annually, and will revise them as necessary with the advice of the chief school administrator.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Concepts and Roles in Business, Noninstructional Operations, Goals and Objectives in Business and Noninstructional Operations, Planning, Business

**BUDGET PLANNING, PREPARATION AND ADOPTION**

The budget is the financial reflection of the educational plan for the district. The budget shall be designed to carry out that plan in a thorough and efficient manner and to maintain the facilities and honor the obligations of the district. The budget shall be in accord with statutory and regulatory mandates of the federal government, the state legislature, the state board of education and the board of education.

The budget shall provide sufficient resources for the designed curriculum and instruction. The budget shall be delivered in such a way that all students have the opportunity to achieve the knowledge and skills defined by the core curriculum content standards and local standards.

In reviewing budget proposals, the board will consider priorities to be accomplished during the subsequent year, based on the needs identified through the district's planning process. The budget shall be prepared on forms prescribed by the commissioner of education and should be considered critically by each board member during its preparation.

In order to ensure adequate time for the preparation and review of the proposed budget, the board directs the chief school administrator to develop a schedule of events associated with the development, presentation and adoption of the budget by the board. This calendar of events shall conform to all dates set out in statute and shall be reviewed and adopted by the board annually. The chief school administrator shall prepare a tentative budget and shall confer with the principals, department heads, board committees and other district personnel, as necessary, to make the tentative budget realistic.

The board may call upon key personnel to discuss those portions of the budget that concern their areas of district operations.

The budget should evolve primarily from the district's goals and schools' current needs, but shall also consider the data collected in long-range budget planning. In preparing budget requests, the responsible administrator shall include the following costs by program area\*:

- A. Staff
- B. Textbooks, equipment and supplies
- C. Cost and maintenance of facilities and equipment

\*This does not mean the district has a program-oriented budget.

BUDGET PLANNING, PREPARATION AND ADOPTION (continued)

D. Other costs associated with the operation of each program

The district's operating budget, when presented to the board for review, shall contain:

- A. The proposed expenditure for each line item requested for the ensuing year;
- B. The anticipated expenditure for each existing line item in the current school year;
- C. The actual expenditure for each then-existing line item from the immediately completed school year;
- D. A description of each line item;
- E. An estimate of the pupil population for the coming school year by grade;
- F. The current pupil population by grade;
- G. An estimate of the staff needed for the coming school year by grade and/or by subject;
- H. Actual staff for the current year;
- I. Anticipated revenue by sources and amounts;
- J. Amount of surplus anticipated at the end of the current school year including accumulated surplus;
- K. All other expenses projected for the coming year, anticipated for the present year, and incurred in the preceding year, on the district level;
- L. Projected impact on tax rate.

The board may submit a separate budget proposal or proposals to the voters for additional general fund tax levies which may be in excess to that which has been determined necessary for all students to have an opportunity to achieve the core curriculum content standards and a thorough and efficient education. The board shall adopt any such questions by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full board.

Since the budget is the legal basis on which the school tax rate is established, the annual school budget process is an important means of communication within the school organization and with district residents. The community shall be notified of and encouraged to attend all board meetings at which preliminary budget discussions will be held. The legally required public hearing on the proposed budget shall be held after the budget has been approved by the county superintendent of schools and within the statutorily prescribed timelines.

The annual budget proposal must be adopted by a roll call majority vote of the full membership of the board. Once adopted, the proposal represents the position of the board, and all reasonable means shall be employed by the board to present and explain that position to all community residents and taxpayers.

The proposed budget as accepted by this board shall be set forth in detail, using the form prescribed by the state department of education, and shall be made available to the public as required by law. A brochure may be published to explain the annual school budget and will be distributed to district taxpayers, if the board of education deems it necessary.

BUDGET PLANNING, PREPARATION AND ADOPTION (continued)

The brochure should include:

- A. A summary of the proposed expenditures and anticipated revenues;
- B. General information which may enable district taxpayers to understand the proposed budget better; for example, present and projected school enrollments and assessed valuations, state aid, and teachers' salaries;
- C. An explanation of significant changes in the budget;
- D. An explanation of the tax impact of the proposed budget.

All board members are expected to attend the public hearing on the budget.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Budget Planning, Preparation and Adoption; Planning; Budget

Policy

TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN LINE ITEMS/AMENDMENTS/  
PURCHASES NOT BUDGETED

Appropriate fiscal controls shall ensure that the board does not spend more than authorized funds. The board secretary shall keep the board informed of the district's financial status according to law.

Except in the case of federal basic skills improvement funds, the board designates the chief school administrator to approve such transfers among line items and programs as are necessary between meetings of the board. Transfers approved by the chief school administrator shall be reported to the board, ratified, and recorded in the minutes at a subsequent meeting of the board, but not less than monthly.

When the necessity arises for an unbudgeted expenditure, and there are no available funds in other line items in the same category, the procedures required by administrative code shall be initiated.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Transfer of Funds, Budget, Budget Amendment

\*\*Mandated if the district wishes to adopt an expanded chart of accounts pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.2(m)2.

**Policy**

**Monitored**  
 **Mandated**  
 **Other Reasons**  
 **Local**

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TAX REVENUES

The expenditures of this district should be planned in conjunction with the treasurer of school monies in order to coordinate the cash requirements of the municipality with those of the school system to avoid the need for borrowing by the municipality.

The request for pay over the operating funds from the borough treasurer to the secretary of the board is to be presented to the Board annually by the board secretary in the form of a schedule and implemented by the board secretary without further Board authority following the adoption of said annual schedule of the board.

The Board authorizes the secretary to request tax revenues be paid over in anticipation of expenditures at the rate of once every month, except as otherwise permitted by law.

Reference: 18A:17-34; 54:5-75

X   Monitored

  X   Mandated

  X   Other Reasons

Policy

STATE FUNDS; FEDERAL FUNDS

Each year, when it is believed that the school district is eligible for federal and/or state assistance under the provisions of public laws, application for said assistance may be submitted so long as acceptance of the funds does not include conditions contrary to the policies of the board of education. The chief school administrator shall inform the board about specific assurances which may be required in addition to those addressed in this policy, and will provide the required language for board adoption.

When the law requires the development and implementation of administrative procedures for submitting state and federal financial reports, with specified time schedules, the chief school administrator and board secretary shall ensure that the staff has properly completed the reports and that in each instance the reports have been submitted within the specified time.

The regular operating budget must include amounts anticipated to be received from state and/or federal sources, and a listing of projects describing how this money will be spent. These recommendations for expenditures will be approved by the board before projects are submitted.

If additional amounts become available during the year, additional projects will be recommended to the board and, with its approval, added to the budget.

Maintenance of Effort

The board of education will maintain a combined fiscal effort per pupil or aggregate expenditures of state and local funds with respect to the provision of the public education for the preceding fiscal year that is not less than the required amount of the combined fiscal effort per pupil or the aggregate expenditures for the second preceding fiscal year.

Equivalence

To be in compliance with the requirements of federal law, the board of education directs the chief school administrator to assign staff and distribute curriculum materials and instructional supplies to the schools in such a way that equivalence of personnel and materials is ensured among the schools.

Supplement not Supplant

Federal funds shall be used for supplementary services only and shall not be used to replace services that the district would supply eligible pupils, if state and federal funds were not available.



STATE FUNDS; FEDERAL FUNDS (continued)

Parent/Guardian Participation

The district shall implement parent/guardian consultation and participation, advisory councils, etc., as mandated for the specific program.

Control of Equipment

Title to and control over equipment and/or property purchased with federal funds shall be maintained in accordance with the pertinent federal regulations. The chief school administrator shall develop written procedures outlining federal ownership and district use, loan, loss and disposal of such equipment/property for public and private/nonpublic schools.

Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program

The chief school administrator or designee shall ensure that the district follows all required procedures to maximize its revenue from reimbursements under the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program. This Program allows the district to recover a portion of the cost of certain health-related services considered medically necessary in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), including evaluation services, physical, occupational and speech therapy, and specialized transportation services. If the Executive County Superintendent deems appropriate, due to the limited number of affected students, an approval waiver may be granted from the County Education Office exempting the district from the SEMI program.

Procedures to be followed are included in the SEMI Provider Handbook, found at [www.state.nj.us/treasure/administration/SemiMac.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/treasure/administration/SemiMac.htm). These procedures include maximizing the return rate of parental consent forms for all SEMI eligible students.

In the accord with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the district shall obtain the parent/guardian's informed written consent prior to any disclosures of personally identifiable information from education records, including health information, to the Medicaid program for Medicaid claim submission.

All supporting documentation for Medicaid claims shall be maintained on file and available for state or federal audit for at least seven years from the date of service. Records shall fully document the basis upon which claims for reimbursement are made.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

State Funds, Federal Funds, Disposal of Equipment, State/Federal Funds

Policy

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INCOME FROM FEES, FINES, CHARGES

All charges to elementary and secondary pupils shall be kept at a minimum. Materials used by pupils in art, industrial arts, and home economics in projects that are to be taken home may be charged to the pupils. No pupil shall be caused to suffer embarrassment because of financial inability to participate in any activity or project under control of the district.

Reasonable charges for admission to school-sponsored athletic events shall be approved by the board on recommendation of the chief school administrator.

The chief school administrator shall oversee preparation of a schedule of fines for lost or damaged textbooks and/or equipment. The same schedule shall apply to nonpublic school pupils who lose or damage textbooks loaned to them.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Gate Receipts; Charges for Supplies; Fees, Fines, Charges

**Policy**

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SALE AND DISPOSAL OF BOOKS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES;  
SALE, LICENSING AND RENTAL OF PROPERTY

The board believes that the efficient administration of the district requires the disposition of property and goods no longer necessary for the maintenance of the educational program or the operation of the school district. The board shall direct the chief school administrator to review periodically all district property and shall authorize the disposition by sale, licensing, rental or donation of any property not required for school purposes.

The school business administrator shall develop rules for the disposition of property that ensure that all sales are conducted in a fair and open manner consistent with the public interest, and in compliance with law.

Any district property designated for donation or unsold after such offer may be offered without cost to charitable or nonprofit organizations having a use for such property.

Supplies and equipment for specific programs, purchased with funds granted by the state and federal government, shall be disposed of in strict accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Sale of Property, Licensing, Rental, Donation to Private Organizations, Disposal of Property

Policy

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GIFTS, GRANTS AND BEQUESTS

Only the board of education may accept for the school district any bequest or gift of money, property or goods, except that the chief school administrator may accept on behalf of the board any such gift of less than \$500 in value.

The board reserves the right to refuse to accept any gift that does not contribute to the achievement of district goals or could deplete the resources of the district.

Any gift accepted by the board or the chief school administrator shall become the property of the board, may not be returned without the approval of the board, and is subject to the same controls and regulations as are other properties of the board. The board shall be responsible for the maintenance of any gift it accepts.

The board will make every effort to honor the intent of the donor in its use of the gift, but reserves the right to use any gift it accepts in the best interest of the educational program of the district. In no case shall acceptance of a gift be considered to be an endorsement by the board of a commercial product or business enterprise or institution of learning.

Grants

Staff members are encouraged to seek out sources of grants and gifts, and bring them to the attention of the chief school administrator, who shall investigate the conditions of such grants and make recommendations to the board regarding the advisability of seeking them.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Gifts, Grants, Bequests

**Policy**

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INVESTMENTS

When the Board, due to unforeseen contingencies in the current account, receipt of state aid, funds in advance of construction, etc., is holding unencumbered cash balances, such funds shall be invested at interest.

All investments of the Board by an officer or employee of this district, require prior Board approval in accordance with this policy.

Funds of the Board may be invested in bonds or other obligations of the United States, bonds of certain federal agencies as specified by law, the New Jersey Cash Management Fund, bonds or obligations of the county, municipality, or school district and public depositories located within the boundaries of the State of New Jersey provided such depositories secure public funds in accordance with state law.

Investment of Board funds may be made at the sole discretion of the secretary when operating within applicable statutes, provided that no commitment of this Board may be put in default at time due but be paid properly and promptly.

The treasurer shall include in the monthly report to the Board all cash in all accounts on deposit as well as all investment assets of the Board. The Board also requires that the secretary report to the Board monthly the interest earned to date and the type and accounts of each investment and the interest earned on each.

The interest earned on such investments shall be combined with the general revenues of the Board.

Policy

PURCHASING PROCEDURES

The board of education wishes to establish and carry out a careful system of purchasing and accounting to help provide an effective program of education while guarding against loss due to carelessness, inefficiency, theft, or improper maintenance of records.

The duties of purchasing are to be centralized under the school business administrator, who shall be familiar with and perform all his/her activities within the limitations prescribed by law, board policy and legal opinions.

The board of education encourages the administration to seek advantages in savings through joint agreements for the purchase of work, materials or supplies with the governing body(ies) of other contracting units within this county or adjoining counties or by other cooperative pricing arrangements. The administration shall also evaluate any savings which may result from the purchase of any materials, supplies or equipment under contracts entered into by the state treasury department, division of purchase and property.

The board may use competitive contracting instead of public bidding for purchasing specialized goods and services, the price of which exceeds the bid threshold, for the purposes and with the conditions specified in law.

All purchases shall be approved by resolution of the board.

Nothing is to be ordered independently by school personnel.

The board of education shall not knowingly enter into contract with any company that does not subscribe to and implement a policy of non-discrimination. The board secretary shall be responsible for so informing all prospective suppliers of work or materials.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Purchasing Procedures, "Set Aside" Contracts, Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action, Vendors

Adopted 8/21/07

3320

Policy

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PUBLIC SCHOOL CONTRACT LAW

Authority

The Board authorizes the board secretary to fulfill the Public School Contract Law requirements pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-1 et seq. and directs that the district's operational procedures be kept current with amendments to this law. The Board shall approve all expenditures.

Bidding/No Bidding Required

The provisions stated in law for bidding requirements and letting contracting and sound business practices shall be used to direct the Board's actions.

The authority to purchase goods or engage services rests with the Board and its final action. Authority to purchase items covered by contract may be delegated within established limits.

Purchases through State Agency Cooperative Purchasing

The Board encourages seeking advantages in savings that may accrue to the district through contracts entered into on behalf of the state by the Division of Purchase and Property and joint agreements by districts, municipalities, and counties.

Policy

PAYMENT FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

Before warrants signed by the president, board secretary and treasurer of school moneys may be issued in payment of bills or claims, the bill or claim must be properly audited and approved according to law.

In general, bills or claims shall be audited by the board secretary and approved by resolution of the board. However, in order to provide for the prompt payment to which vendors are entitled, and which leads to more effective competitive bidding and provision of services to the district, claims duly audited by the board secretary for items previously approved by the board or provided for in the budget may be approved by the school business administrator.\* Such payments shall be reported to the board at the next regular meeting.

Items not previously approved by the board or provided for in the budget must be audited by the board secretary and presented for board approval.

Purchase Orders

The district will carefully monitor payment for invoice amounts that are greater than the approved purchase order, in order to avoid over-payments. A new purchase order will be issued (and the original purchase order voided) when the adjustment amount unreasonably exceeds the original purchase order amount. In no instance shall an adjustment be made to a purchase order that changes the purpose or vendor of the original purchase order or the bid award price, and adjustments may not exceed 10% of the original purchase order amount.

Financial Systems to Avoid Over-Payment

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23AS-6.10, the district will program its financial systems to avoid over-payments by (1) limiting system access so that only appropriate staff may make purchase order adjustments, (2) reject adjustments in excess of any established approved thresholds, (3) prevent unauthorized changes to be processed, (4) reject payments where the sum of the invoice amount plus any previous invoices charged to the purchase order exceeds the sum of the original purchase order, (5) reject duplicate invoice numbers, (6) prepare an edit/change report listing all payments made in excess of the approved purchase order amount. The business administrator shall review on a monthly basis edit/change reports listing all payments made in excess of the originally approved purchase order amount to ensure that all payments are properly authorized.



PAYMENTS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES (continued)

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Payment for Goods and Services, Bills

\*Board secretary, school business administrator, chief school administrator, chairperson of finance committee, board president, etc.

**Policy**

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RELATIONS WITH VENDORS

The board of education wishes to maintain good working relations with vendors who supply materials and services to the school system. Constructive efforts by the administration to seek the advice and counsel of vendors about how to improve such relationships are encouraged.

In the schools, vendors shall be seen by appointment only. Vendors who call upon a school shall be governed by policy #1250. Teachers or supervisors of instruction who have invited vendors to call should notify the principal's office in advance so that proper courtesies may be extended.

No agents, canvassers, or vendors shall have access to teachers during their classes. No business concern which solicits or gains business through the school system shall use school facilities for this purpose.

Nondiscrimination

All vendors shall supply assurances that they do not practice discrimination as described in the administrative code. All vendors shall be informed that harassment of any kind of district pupils or employees by their representatives is prohibited.

Honest and Ethical Relations with Vendors; Pay-to-Pay Restrictions

The district shall maintain honest and ethical relations with vendor and shall guard against favoritism, improvidence, extravagance and corruption in its contracting processes and practices. The school board will not vote upon or award a contract in the amount of \$17,500 or greater to any business entity which has made a reportable contribution to a member of the district board of education during the previous one-year period. Such contributions, to any member of the school board, for any entity doing business with the district are prohibited during the term of the contract, including contributions by vendor's spouse or child, or contributions by any person having an interest in the business entity. Disclosure of contributions shall be made when contracts are required by law to be publicly bid. However, these limitations do not apply when a district emergency requires the immediate delivery of goods or services.

Strategies to Avoid Excessive Professional Services Expenditures

The board will seek to avoid excessive professional services expenditures, such as by:

- A. Establishing a maximum dollar limit, for budgetary purposes,
- B. Following state legal requirements and procedures to obtain the highest quality services at a fair and competitive price; and
- C. Limiting professional services contracts to non-recurring or specialized work for which the district does not possess adequate in-house resources or expertise.

RELATIONS WITH VENDORS (continued)

Prudent Use of Legal Services

To ensure the prudent and cost-effective use of legal services, the district will limit and designate the persons with the authority to request services or advice from the contracted legal counsel. Legal counsel will not be used unnecessarily to make management decisions or to obtain readily available information such as district policies. Requests for legal advice shall be made in writing. Contact logs and records shall be kept and reviewed to determine that the requests for legal advice are necessary. Advance payments for legal services are prohibited. Services shall be described in detail and invoices for payment shall be itemized. Payment shall only be for services actually provided.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Vendors, Sexual Harassment, Harassment, Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action

Policy

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ACCOUNTS

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

The chief school administrator shall ensure that generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) are applied in preparing the budget and keeping all accounts of the district in accordance with code and statute.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Bookkeeping, Accounting, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

Policy

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INVENTORIES

The board secretary shall maintain an accurate and complete inventory of all buildings, fixed equipment and contents, and their value, in order to offer proof of loss in the event of an insurance claim and to provide a continuous chain of accountability.

The inventory shall be updated to reflect new equipment and shall be verified in a cycle to coincide with the reissuance of insurance policies. Loss of any portable capital equipment of \$100 unit value or more shall be reported to the board. Consumable supplies shall be maintained on a continuous inventory basis.

Major discrepancies in inventories which are not resolved by proper accounting procedures shall be reported to the board.

The board shall determine when it is necessary to hire an outside service to assist in appraisal.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Inventory, District Records and Reports

Policy

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MONEY IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

All funds from athletic events or other activities of pupil organizations collected by school district employees and by pupil treasurers under the auspices of the board shall be handled and accounted for pursuant to prudent business procedures and rules of the state board of education.

The principal/designee shall be responsible for the receipt and deposit of all funds collected in his/her school and shall administer an accounting system for all such moneys.

In no case shall money be left overnight in schools except in the school safe provided for safekeeping of valuables.

Lost money shall be replaced by the person responsible.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Money in School Buildings, Pupil Organizations, Athletic Funds

Policy

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PETTY CASH FUNDS

The board of education authorizes establishment of imprest petty cash accounts by resolution annually.

Funds are to be used for emergencies and small purchases only and not to subvert the intent of the regular purchasing procedures or for routine expenditures. No single expenditure shall exceed the amount determined by the board in its resolution, and all expenditures must be authorized by the designated individual.

All disbursements from petty cash shall be reported at the next regular monthly meeting of the board. All petty cash funds shall be established by board-approved voucher and all unused cash is to be returned to the depository at the close of each fiscal year.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Petty Cash

Policy

SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUNDS

School activity funds (funds derived from pupils' activities) shall be audited annually along with other district funds and shall be administered, expended, and accounted for according to rules of the state board of education.

The pupil activity funds for each school shall be kept in separate accounts, supervised by the building principal\*. Separate and complete records shall be maintained for each pupil organization. All receipts from pupil fund-raising projects, athletic events, and other events for which admission is charged will be deposited promptly. Bank deposits shall agree with the receipts in the case receipt book and shall be traceable to definite receipts or groups of receipts.

Disbursements must be made by check signed by the building principal\* and supported by a claim, bill or written order to persons supervising the fund. Checks shall bear two or more authorized signatures. All disbursements shall be recorded chronologically showing the date, vendor, check number, purpose and amount.

Borrowing from the pupil activity accounts is prohibited.

An account shall be submitted monthly to the board secretary\* and shall include a listing of all receipts and disbursements. Book balances shall be reconciled with bank balances. Cancelled checks and bank statements shall be retained for examination as part of the annual audit required by law and code.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

School Activity Funds, Athletic Funds, Class Funds

\*Depending on the organization of the district, the person responsible may vary.



**Policy**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT

The board of education is responsible for providing school facilities that are safe from hazards; sanitary; properly equipped, lighted and ventilated; and aesthetically suited to promoting the goals of the district. School buildings and site accommodations shall include provisions for individuals with disabilities pursuant to law and regulations.

The chief school administrator shall develop and enforce detailed regulations for the safe and sanitary operation of the buildings and grounds. The regulations shall be reviewed and adopted by the board, and explained to all staff annually at the beginning of each school year and when any changes are made.

The chief school administrator and board secretary shall develop a multiyear comprehensive maintenance plan for board approval, to be updated annually.

Integrated Pest Management

The New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002 requires schools to implement a school integrated pest management policy. As per this policy, each local school board of a school district, the Chief Administrator of a public school, each board of trustees of a charter school, and each Principal or Chief Administrator of a non-public school as appropriate, shall implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures to control pests and minimize exposure of children, faculty, and staff to pesticides. Woodbury Heights School shall develop and maintain an IPM plan as part of the school's policy.

**Integrated pest management procedures in schools**

Implementation of IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, cultural, biological or chemical methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

Each school shall consider the full range of management options, including no action at all. Non-pesticide pest management methods are to be used whenever possible. The choice of using a pesticide shall be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not effective or not reasonable. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, low impact pesticides and methods are preferred and shall be considered for use first.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT (continued)

**Development of IPM plans**

The school IPM plan is a blueprint of how Woodbury Heights School will manage pests through IPM methods. The school IPM plan states the school's goals regarding the management of pests and the use of pesticides. It reflects the school's site-specific needs. The IPM plan shall provide a description of how each component of the school IPM policy will be implemented at the school. For public schools, the Chief School Administrator, in collaboration with the school building administrator, shall be responsible for the development of the IPM plan for this school. For charter schools and non-public schools, the development of the IPM plan shall be the responsibility of the Chief School Administrator or Principal.

**IPM Coordinator**

The Chief School Administrator shall designate an integrated pest management coordinator, who is responsible for the implementation of the school integrated pest management policy.

**Education /Training**

The school community will be educated about potential pest problems and IPM methods used to achieve the pest management objectives.

The IPM Coordinator, other school staff and pesticide applicators involved with implementation of the school IPM policy will be trained in appropriate components of IPM as it pertains to the school environment.

Students, parents/guardians will be provided information on this policy and instructed on how they can contribute to the success of the IPM program.

**Record keeping**

Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and the school board.

Records shall also include, but are not limited to, pest surveillance data sheets and other non-pesticide pest management methods and practices utilized.

**Notification/Posting**

The chief school administrator of Woodbury Heights School, is responsible for timely notification to students' parents or guardians and the school staff of pesticide treatments pursuant to the School IPM Act.

**Re-entry**

Re-entry to a pesticide treated area shall conform to the requirements of the School IPM Act.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT (continued)

**Pesticide applicators**

The IPM coordinator shall ensure that applicators follow state regulations, including licensing requirements and label precautions, and must comply with all components of the School IPM Policy.

**Evaluation**

Annually, for public schools, the Chief School Administrator will report to the local school board on the effectiveness of the IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed. For non-public schools and charter schools, the Chief School Administrator(s) or Principal(s) shall report to their respective governing boards on the effectiveness of the school IPM plan and make recommendations for improvement as needed.

The local school board directs the Chief School Administrator to develop regulations/procedures for the implementation of this policy.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Operation and Maintenance of Plant, Buildings and Grounds, Maintenance

Policy

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SMOKING PROHIBITION

To promote the health and safety of all students and staff and to promote the cleanliness of school grounds, the board prohibits all smoking or use of tobacco products in all school facilities and on all school grounds at all times. Definitions of "school facilities" and "school grounds" shall be in accord with definitions in the administrative code.

Notice of this policy shall be given at each school entrance and at appropriate locations on school grounds in accordance with law. Smoking shall not be permitted at any time in classrooms, lecture halls, auditoriums or anywhere else on school grounds.

The principal of each school building is authorized to report violations, in accordance with law, to the board of health. Pupils and district employees who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures. The chief school administrator shall prepare and the board shall adopt regulations prohibiting smoking in all district buildings and on school grounds.

Definition: For purposes of this policy, "smoking" means the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter or substance which contains tobacco. Chewing tobacco is also specifically prohibited by this policy.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Smoking, Smoking Prohibition

**Policy**

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SAFETY

The chief school administrator shall develop rules governing school safety which shall include but not be limited to: pupil safety in school; care of injured pupils; vehicle safety programs; plant safety including removal and/or encapsulation of asbestos; labeling and storage of hazardous substances; emergency procedures; pupil safety in transit to and from school; and eye protection. In addition, pupils shall be provided with safety instruction in accordance with the law.

Use and Storage of Hazardous Substances

The board shall not allow the use of any hazardous substances in or on any of the buildings or grounds of this district when children are present, except in emergencies. A list of substances that are legally exempted from this requirement can be obtained from the chief school administrator.

The chief school administrator shall inform the board when hazardous substances may be used when children are present, and the board shall determine if an emergency situation exists and such use is warranted.

If any hazardous substance is stored on any school site, the chief school administrator shall make available the hazardous substance fact sheet for that substance to any one who requests it.

At least two days prior to the start of any construction activity involving hazardous substances, the chief school administrator shall post on a bulletin board at the school a notice that such construction will take place. The notice will state the activity to be conducted and the hazardous substance(s) to be used.

The chief school administrator shall ensure that all parents/guardians receive a notice at least once a year informing them of the following:

- A. Notice of any construction or other activities involving hazardous substances will be posted on the bulletin board of their children's school;
- B. Hazardous substances may be stored at the school at various times throughout the year;
- C. Hazardous substance fact sheets for any of the hazardous substances being used or stored are available at the school.

SAFETY (continued)

Implementation

Rules and procedures implementing this policy shall be reviewed and adopted by the board as required by law and shall be disseminated to staff and pupils annually, and whenever any changes are made.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Safety, Pupil Safety, Employee Safety, Asbestos, Hazardous Materials, Student Safety

**Policy**

TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND SERVICES

The board of education directs the chief school administrator to supervise development of bus routes to provide safe, economical and reasonably expeditious transportation for:

- A. Pupils who live remote from the schoolhouse as defined by New Jersey law;
- B. Educationally disabled pupils in accordance with their IEP;
- C. Pupils participating in board-approved extracurricular activities or field trips;
- D. Pupils whose route to the school is deemed hazardous by the board;
- E. Other pupils as required by law.

The criteria to be used in designing routes and assigning pupils to them shall include:

- A. The distance to be traveled to and from school;
- B. The age and state of health of the child;
- C. The requirements of the instructional program;
- D. The hazards involved on the route to be traveled.

Transportation to and from school shall be provided as required by law to eligible nonpublic school pupils and to pupils attending charter schools. All pupils riding on district buses shall be required to observe the district's bus conduct regulations or risk loss of the privilege of such transportation.

Buses, whether contracted or district-owned, shall be kept in optimum condition and shall conform to all state safety regulations.

Bus routes must be acted upon by the board and submitted to the county office.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Pupil Transportation, Transportation, Busing, Buses, Courtesy Busing, Nonpublic School Pupils, Student Transportation

Policy

Monitored  
 Mandated  
 Other Reasons

LOCAL WELLNESS/NUTRITION

The board believes that children need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive, and that good health fosters student attendance and education.

Obesity rates have doubled in children and tripled in adolescents over the last two decades, and physical inactivity and excessive calorie intake are the predominant causes of obesity. Heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes are responsible for two-thirds of deaths in the United States, and major risk factors for those diseases, including unhealthy eating habits, physical inactivity, and obesity, often are established in childhood. Further, the items most commonly sold from school vending machines, school stores, and snack bars include low-nutrition foods and beverages, such as soda, sports drinks, imitation fruit juices, chips, candy, cookies, and snack cakes.

To promote healthful behavior in the school, the board is committed to encouraging its students to consume fresh fruits, vegetables, lowfat milk and whole grains. The board is also committed to encouraging students to select and consume all components of the school meal.

In order to promote and protect children’s health, well-being, and ability to learn, the board is committed to providing school environments that support healthy eating and physical activity and will ensure that:

- A. All students will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
- B. Foods and beverages sold or served at school will meet the nutrition recommendations of the *U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, and the USDA nutrition standards for National School Lunch, School Breakfast and/or After School Snack Programs. The district will regulate the types of food and beverage items offered outside the federal meal requirements, such as ala carte sales, vending machines, school stores, and fund raisers.
- C. All students will be provided with adequate time for student meal service and consumption in a clean, safe, and pleasant dining environment. Lunch and recess or physical education schedules will be coordinated with the meal service.
- D. To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in our district will participate in available federal school meal programs (including the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program including- After-School Snack Programs, Summer Food Service Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program).
- E. Schools will provide nutrition education and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and will establish linkages between health education and school meal programs, and with related community services.



- F. The board will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.

NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 2007 THE DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

All Schools

The following items shall not be served, sold or given out as free promotion anywhere on school property at anytime before the end of the school day:

- A. Foods of minimal nutritional value as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture
- B. All food and beverage items listing sugar, in any form as the first ingredient
- C. All forms of candy

Schools shall reduce the purchase of any products containing trans fats. All snack and beverage items sold or served anywhere on school property during the school day, including items sold in a la carte lines, vending machines, snack bars, school stores and fundraisers or served in the reimbursable After School Snack Program, shall meet the following standards:

- A. Based on manufacturers nutritional data or nutrient facts labels:
  - 1. No more than eight grams of total fat per serving, with the exception of nuts and seeds.
  - 2. No more than two grams of saturated fat per serving.
- B. All beverages shall not exceed 12 ounces, with the following exceptions:
  - 1. Water.
  - 2. Milk containing two percent or less fat.
- C. Whole milk shall not exceed eight ounces.

Elementary Schools

- A. 100 percent of all beverages offered shall be milk, water or
- B. 100 percent fruit or vegetable juices.

Middle and High Schools

- A. At least 60 percent of all beverages offered, other than milk and water, shall be 100 percent fruit or vegetable juices.
- B. No more than 40 percent of all ice cream/frozen desserts shall be allowed to exceed the above standards for sugar, fat, and saturated fat.

LOCAL WELLNESS/NUTRITION (Continued)

General School District Requirements

Food and beverages served during special school celebrations or during curriculum related activities shall be exempt from this policy, with the exception of foods of minimal nutritional (FMNV) value as defined by USDA regulations.

This policy does not apply to: medically authorized special needs diets pursuant to federal regulations; school nurses using FMNVs during the course of providing health care to individual students; or special needs students who's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicates their use for behavior modification. Adequate time shall be allowed for student meal service and consumption. Schools shall provide a pleasant dining environment. The board recommends that physical education or recess be scheduled before lunch whenever possible.

The district's curriculum shall incorporate nutrition education and physical activity consistent with the New Jersey Department of Education Core Curriculum Content Standards.

The chief school administrator will specifically address the issue of biosecurity for the school food service. Biosecurity may be part of the plans, procedures and mechanism for school safety.

The board is committed to promoting the nutrition policy with all food service personnel, teachers, nurses, coaches and other school administrative staff so they have the skills they need to implement this policy and promote healthy eating practices. The board will work toward expanding awareness about this policy among students, parents, teachers and the community at large.

The chief school administrator shall develop regulations consistent with this policy, including a process for measuring the effectiveness of its implementation, and designating personnel within each school with operational responsibility for ensuring the school is complying with the policy.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

School Lunch, Food Service, Nutrition, Wellness,

\_\_\_\_\_ Monitored

\*\*X Mandated

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Reasons

Policy

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FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCHES/MILK

It is the policy of the board of education that this school district participate in any federal or state subsidized food program for the benefit of eligible pupils. Pupil eligibility shall be as determined by the guidelines of the subsidizing agency. The board requires that all regulations of the subsidizing agency be observed including especially those which preserve the privacy of eligible pupils.

The board hereby adopts as its own the free and reduced-price policy developed by the bureau of child nutrition programs pursuant to federal regulations.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Free Lunch, School Lunch, Lunch, Milk, Reduced-price Lunches/Milk

\*\*Mandated only if the district wishes to do it.

Adopted 8/21/07  
3542.31

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TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The safety and welfare of pupils shall be the first consideration in all matters pertaining to transportation. The board directs the chief school administrator to oversee development of regulations to govern:

- A. Pupil conduct on buses;
- B. Inservice education for bus drivers to include:
  - 1. Management of pupils;
  - 2. Safe driving practices; recognition of hazards;
  - 3. Special concerns in transporting pupils with disabilities;
  - 4. Emergency procedures on the road; accident report;
  - 5. Information on required drug and alcohol testing.
  - 6. Ban on the use of cell phones while driving. Bus drivers are prohibited from using a cell phone while driving a school bus. They may only use a cell phone when the bus is parked in a safe area off a highway, or in an emergency situation.

Accidents

Forms shall be provided for the immediate reporting of all incidents involving a district-owned or contracted vehicle that include any of the following:

- A. Physical injury to anyone concerned, no matter how minor
- B. Property damage of any kind, even if the financial loss is negligible
- C. Failure of any mechanical function of a district-owned or contracted vehicle during operation, even if no injury or damage results

It shall be the responsibility of the chief school administrator to direct an investigation on the report and to comply with the law. The information gained shall be considered in evaluating personnel performances, and in scheduling inspection of vehicles.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY (continued)

Drills

Emergency evacuation drills shall be conducted regularly throughout the school year to acquaint the pupil riders thoroughly with emergency situations. An emergency evacuation drill shall be held as soon as possible after the opening day of school and then at least twice a year. NOTE: IF THE DISTRICT DOES NO BUSING, SUCH A DRILL MIGHT ONLY BE NECESSARY BEFORE A FIELD TRIP. All pupils must receive evacuation instruction at least once within the school year.

Vehicles and Equipment

All district-owned or contracted vehicles used to transport children shall be maintained in such condition as to provide safe and efficient transportation service with a minimum of delays and disruption due to mechanical or equipment failure.

All district-owned or contracted vehicles used to transport children shall conform with state standards for such vehicles and shall be equipped with all safety devices required by code and statute.

All passengers on buses equipped with seat belts shall wear properly adjusted and fastened seat belts or other child restraint systems at all times while the bus is in operation.

Bus Drivers

Drivers of all Type I and Type II school vehicles used to transport district pupils shall be licensed by the State of New Jersey as bus drivers. They shall comply with all state requirements on physical condition, criminal history clearance, etc. The district shall be in compliance with all drug and alcohol testing requirements of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act and implementing regulations and shall provide all bus drivers with required information on them (see policy 4219.23 Employee substance abuse). Bus drivers are responsible for the safety of pupils entering, riding, and departing their vehicle. Bus drivers are prohibited from using a cell phone while driving a school bus.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Safety, Bus Safety, Transportation Safety, Pupil Transportation, Student Transportation

Policy

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PURCHASING

The board of education authorizes and directs the chief school administrator or designee to execute contracts with proper vendors in accordance with state law to purchase subsistence amounts of perishable foods without competitive bids. This policy shall be published annually as required by law, along with the procedures by which authorized vendors may become eligible to submit quotations.

The school business administrator is authorized to purchase not more than \$250 worth of food supplies in any month for the cafeterias or food preparation classes without soliciting quotations. Such purchases must be documented according to law.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Food Purchases, Purchasing Procedures

**Policy**

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FOOD SERVICE

The school lunch program shall make a nutritionally adequate lunch available to every pupil and shall operate on the most economically feasible basis.

It shall be operated in strict compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to health, sanitation and safety; internal accounting; employment practices; nutritional standards; costs of lunches; and periodic reporting required by New Jersey law.

The chief school administrator is responsible for the administration and operation of the school lunch program in keeping with federal and state laws and the policies and directives of the board.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

School Lunch, Food Service, Nutrition, Wellness,

**Policy**

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DISTRICT RECORDS AND REPORTS

The operation of a school district results in the generation of numerous documents and official records. These must be maintained in compliance with the NJ Open Public Records Act and other laws and regulations. Members of the public have the right under law to inspect and copy (with certain exceptions) the public records of the district.

The district plans to preserve these records by (1) appointing the business administrator as records custodian, (2) periodically reviewing records retention with the chief school administrator and the school board or a committee thereof, and (3) retaining records according to the schedule for educational institutions promulgated by NJDARM (NJ Division of Archives & Records Management). A partial schedule, for key classes of records, is shown at the end of this policy.

Availability to the Public

For the protection of the public interest, the board believes that members of the community have a right to inspect, copy or examine district records, with certain exemptions as specifically described in statute. Any limitations on this right shall be construed in favor of the public's right to access. Requests for district records shall be submitted to the records custodian (or designee) in writing on the appropriate form. The custodian shall reply to all requests promptly and shall grant access or deny the request as soon as possible, but within seven days, provided that the record is currently available and not in storage or archived.

The custodian shall permit district records to be inspected, examined or copied during the hours that the board office is open (or for small districts with an enrollment of 500 or fewer, during not less than six regular business hours over not less than three business days per week). Immediate access ordinarily must be granted for budgets, bills, contracts and collective negotiations agreements. Copies may be made at fees not to exceed those set by statute. Anonymous requests for government records are permitted by law. If an anonymous request is made and the estimated cost of producing copies exceeds \$5.00, a deposit may be required. Anonymous requests for personal information will not be fulfilled.

Access shall be granted in the medium requested or some other meaningful medium, unless the request is for a record in a medium not routinely used by the district; not routinely developed or maintained by the district; or requiring a substantial amount of manipulation or programming of information technology. In these cases, the board may add a special reasonable charge. The custodian shall ensure that statements are prominently posted in district offices that describe the specific terms of the public's right to appeal a denial of access and procedures for filing an appeal.



DISTRICT RECORDS AND REPORTS (continued)Records Exempted from Public Access

Records exempted by law include: security and emergency response procedures; purchase, lease or acquisition of real property; pending or anticipated litigation; reports of investigations in progress; matters for which disclosure would impair the right to receive federal funds; pending negotiations toward a collective bargaining agreement; most personnel and pension records of an individual; questions and answer keys (for personnel or academic examinations and job interviews); records concerning individual pupils and staff, their home addresses and telephone numbers (unless waived by the individual); reports and recommendations that involve unwarranted invasion of privacy; medical and psychological records. The records custodian will keep confidential and edit out information in records that disclose social security numbers, credit card information and drivers' license numbers.

Record Retention

Record retention periods in conformance with state and federal codes, regulations, and statutes of limitation may be accessed through the New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management (NJDARM) in the School District Records Retention and Disposition Schedule located at <http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/retention.html#eds>. The records custodian will ensure that records are retained and appropriately stored in accordance with state and federal statute and regulation. A partial schedule of retention periods for pertinent school record categories is listed below (Note: the School District Records Retention and Disposition Schedule should be consulted before any record is destroyed).

Partial Record Retention Schedule

1. *Financial records*: 7 (seven) years
2. *Agendas and minutes*: Permanent for originals; 1 year for copies
3. *Resolutions of the school board*: Permanent
4. *Administrative policy and advisory statements*: Permanent
5. *Correspondence, including emails*: 3 (three) years for general external correspondence; one year for internal correspondence
6. *Official public meeting notice*: 3 (three) years
7. *Legal notice in newspaper*: 7 (seven) years
8. *Publisher's affidavits*: 10 (ten) years
9. *Tape recordings of school board meetings (audio tape and video)*: 45 (forty-five) days or until summary or verbatim transcripts have been approved as minutes
10. *Election file*: 5 (five) years for bonding election report, certificate and voting authority
11. *Other election materials*: 1 (one) year
12. *Master publications file of school newsletters, yearbooks, student handbooks, etc.*: Permanent

## DISTRICT RECORDS AND REPORTS (continued)

### Partial Record Retention Schedule

13. *School monitoring file (with school monitoring annual plan):* Permanent
14. *Internal monitoring guide and action plan:* 14 (fourteen) years
15. *Academic master plan (updated every seven years):* Permanent
16. *Support file for the academic master plan, including school evaluations:* 10 (ten) years.
17. *Fall and statistical report file:* 5 (five) years
18. *Settlements (original):* Permanent
19. *Agency copy of routine settlements:* 3 (three) years after final settlement

School District Retention Schedule: Active Records – Administration, can be found at NJDARM School District Records Retention and Disposition Schedule reference number M7000101-999. For all other items the district will consult NJDARM School District Records Retention and Disposition Schedule for retention and disposal information.

### Implementation

The chief school administrator shall periodically review the work of the records custodian with the school board or a committee thereof, to ensure that necessary steps are being taken to gather, record, disseminate, copy, store and ultimately to destroy school district records in accordance with applicable laws. Particular attention shall be paid to implementing the public's right to access records and to protecting from public access those records specifically exempted by law. If deemed necessary, the board will adopt additional rules, regulations and procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

### Key Words

District Records and Reports, Public Access, Records, Reports

Policy

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AUDIT

An audit of the accounts of the school district shall be made annually by a public school accountant selected by the board of education. The audit examination shall be conducted in accordance with statute and generally accepted auditing standards and shall include all funds over which the board has direct or supervisory control.

An auditor's fee shall be established in each fiscal year. The board of education shall select an auditing firm experienced in school accounting and willing to perform the required services for the established fee.

Within 30 days following the receipt of the annual audit, the board of education will, at a regular meeting, cause the recommendations of the auditor to be read and to be discussed, and the discussion noted in the minutes of the meeting. The board will direct the implementation of the auditor's recommendations.

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: See legal reference sheet.

Key Words

Audit, Auditor