

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS SERVICES

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PURPOSE OF NONINSTRUCTIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

This series of the board policy manual is devoted to the goals and objectives for the school district's noninstructional services and business operations that assist in the delivery of the education program. These noninstructional services include, but are not limited to, transportation, the school lunch program and child care. The board, as it deems necessary, will provide additional noninstructional services to support the education program.

It is the goal of the board to provide noninstructional services and to conduct its business operations in an efficient manner.

FINANCIAL RECORDS

Financial records of the school district are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as required or modified by law. School district monies are received and expended from the appropriate fund and/or account. The funds and accounts of the school district will include, but not be limited to:

Governmental fund type:

- General fund
- Special revenue fund
 - Management Levy fund
 - Public Education and Recreation Levy fund (PERL)
 - Student activity fund
- Capital projects fund
 - Physical Plant and Equipment Levy fund (PEEL)
 - Secure and Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE)
- Debt service fund

Proprietary fund type:

- Enterprise fund
 - School nutrition fund
 - Child care fund

Fiduciary funds:

- Trust
 - Expendable trust funds
 - Nonexpendable trust funds
- Custodial Funds

Account groups:

- General capital assets account group
- General long-term debt account group

The general fund is used primarily for the education program. Special revenue funds are used to account for monies restricted to a specific use by law. Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources to acquire or construct major capital facilities (other than those of proprietary funds and trust funds) and to account for revenues from SAVE. A debt service fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal and interest. Proprietary funds account for operations of the school district operated similar to private business, or they account for the costs of providing goods and services provided by one department to other departments on a cost reimbursement basis. Fiduciary funds are used to account for monies or assets held by the school district on behalf of, or in trust for, another entity. The account groups are the accounting records for capital assets and long-term debt.

The board may establish other funds in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and may certify other taxes to be levied for the funds as provided by state law. The status of each fund must be included in the annual report.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy and bring necessary changes in the maintenance of the school district's financial records to the attention of the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§291; 298; 298A.
281 I.A.C. 98

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Reviewed 3/8/2021
Revised 3/8/2021

DEBT – POST ISSUE COMPLIANCE

POST-ISSUANCE COMPLIANCE REGULATION FOR TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS

1. Role of Compliance Coordinator/Board Treasurer

The board treasurer shall:

- a) Be responsible for monitoring post-issuance compliance;
- b) Maintain a copy of the transcript of proceedings or minutes in connection with the issuance of any tax-exempt obligations and obtain records that are necessary to meet the requirements of this regulation;
- c) Consult with bond counsel, a rebate consultant, financial advisor, IRS publications and such other resources as are necessary to understand and meet the requirements of this regulation;
- d) Seek out training and education to be implemented upon the occurrence of new developments in the area and upon the hiring of new personnel to implement this regulation.

2. Financing Transcripts' Filing and Retention

The board treasurer shall confirm the proper filing of an IRS 8038 Series return and maintain a transcript of proceedings and minutes for all tax-exempt obligations issued by the school district including, but not limited to, all tax-exempt bonds, notes and lease-purchase contracts. Each transcript shall be maintained until 11 years after the tax-exempt obligation documents have been retired. The transcript shall include, at a minimum:

- a) Form 8038;
- b) Minutes, resolutions and certificates;
- c) Certifications of issue price from the underwriter;
- d) Formal elections required by the IRS;
- e) Trustee statements;
- f) Records of refunded bonds, if applicable;
- g) Correspondence relating to bond financings; and
- h) Reports of any IRS examinations for bond financings.

3. Proper Use of Proceeds

The board treasurer shall review the resolution authorizing issuance for each tax-exempt obligation issued by the school district and the school district shall:

- a) Obtain a computation of the yield on such issue from the school district's financial advisor;

- b) Create a separate Project Fund (with as many sub-funds as shall be necessary to allocate proceeds among the projects being funded by the issue) into which the proceeds of issue shall be deposited;
- c) Review all requisitions, draw schedules, draw requests, invoices and bills requesting payment from the Project Fund;
- d) Determine whether payment from the Project Fund is appropriate and, if so, make payment from the Project Fund (and appropriate sub-fund, if applicable);
- e) Maintain records of the payment requests and corresponding records showing payment;
- f) Maintain records showing the earnings on, and investment of, the Project Fund;
- g) Ensure that all investments acquired with proceeds are purchased at fair market value;
- h) Identify bond proceeds or applicable debt service allocations that must be invested with a yield-restriction and monitor the investments of any yield-restricted funds to ensure that the yield on such investments do not exceed the yield to which such investments are restricted;
- i) Maintain records related to any investment contracts, credit enhancement transactions and the bidding of financial products related to the proceeds.

4. Timely Expenditure and Arbitrage/Rebate Compliance

The board treasurer shall review the Tax-Exemption Certificate (or equivalent) for each tax-exempt obligation issued by the school district and the expenditure records provided in Section 2 of this regulation, above and shall:

- a) Monitor and ensure that proceeds of each such issue are spent within the temporary period set forth in such certificate;
- b) Monitor and ensure that the proceeds are spent in accordance with one or more of the applicable exceptions to rebate as set forth in such certificate if the school district does not meet the "small issuer" exception for said obligation;
- c) Not less than 60 days prior to a required expenditure date, confer with bond counsel and a rebate consultant, if the school district will fail to meet the applicable temporary period or rebate exception expenditure requirements of the Tax-Exemption Certificate. In the event the school district fails to meet a temporary period or rebate exception:
 - 1. Procure a timely computation of any rebate liability and, if rebate is due, file a Form 8038-T and arrange for payment of such rebate liability;
 - 2. Arrange for timely computation and payment of yield reduction payments (as such term is defined in the Code and Treasury Regulations), if applicable.

5. Proper Use of Bond Financed Assets

The board treasurer shall:

- a) Maintain appropriate records and a list of all bond financed assets. Such records shall include the actual amount of proceeds (including investment earnings) spent on each of the bond financed assets;
- b) Monitor and confer with bond counsel with respect to all proposed bond financed assets;
 1. management contracts;
 2. service agreements;
 3. research contracts;
 4. naming rights contracts;
 5. leases or sub-leases;
 6. joint venture, limited liability or partnership arrangements;
 7. sale of property; or
 8. any other change in use of such asset.
- c) Maintain a copy of the proposed agreement, contract, lease or arrangement, together with the response by bond counsel with respect to said proposal for at least three years after retirement of all tax-exempt obligations issued to fund all or any portion of bond financed assets; and
- d) Contact bond counsel and ensure timely remedial action under IRS Regulation Sections 1.141-12 in the event the school district takes an action with respect to a bond financed asset, which causes the private business tests or private loan financing test to be met.

6. General Project Records

For each project financed with tax-exempt obligations, the board treasurer shall maintain, until three years after retirement of the tax-exempt obligations or obligations issued to refund those obligations, the following:

- a) Appraisals, demand surveys or feasibility studies;
- b) Applications, approvals and other documentation of grants;
- c) Depreciation schedules;
- d) Contracts respecting the project.

7. Advance Refundings

The board treasurer shall be responsible for the following current, post issuance and record retention procedures with respect to advance refunding bonds. The board treasurer shall:

- a) Identify and select bonds to be advance refunded with advice from internal financial personnel and a financial advisor;
- b) Identify, with advice from the financial advisor and bond counsel, any possible federal tax compliance issues prior to structuring any advance refunding;

- c) Review the structure with the input of the financial advisor and bond counsel, of advance refunding issues prior to the issuance to ensure;
 - (1) that the proposed refunding is permitted pursuant to applicable federal tax requirements if there has been a prior refunding of the original bond issue;
 - (2) that the proposed issuance complies with federal income tax requirements which might impose restrictions on the redemption date of the refunded bonds;
 - (3) that the proposed issuance complies with federal income tax requirements which allow for the proceeds and replacement proceeds of an issue to be invested temporarily in higher yielding investments without causing the advance refunding bonds to become "arbitrage bonds"; and
 - (4) that the proposed issuance will not result in the issuer's exploitation of the difference between tax exempt and taxable interest rates to obtain a financial advantage nor overburden the tax exempt market in a way that might be considered an abusive transaction for federal tax purposes;
- d) Collect and review data related to arbitrage yield restriction and rebate requirements for advance refunding bonds. To ensure such compliance, the board treasurer shall engage a rebate consultant to prepare a verification report in connection with the advance refunding issuance. Said report shall ensure said requirements are satisfied;
- e) Whenever possible, purchase State and Local Government Series (SLGS) to size each advance refunding escrow. The financial advisor shall be included in the process of subscribing SLGS. To the extent SLGS are not available for purchase, the Board treasurer shall, in consultation with bond counsel and the financial advisor, comply with IRS regulations;
- f) Ensure, after input from bond counsel, compliance with any bidding requirements set forth by the IRS regulations to the extent as issuer elects to the purchase of a guaranteed investment contract;
- g) In determining the issue price for any advance refunding issuance, obtain and retain issue price certification by the purchasing underwriter at closing;
- h) After the issuance of an advance refunding issue, ensure timely identification of violations of any federal tax requirements and engage bond counsel in attempt to remediate same in accordance with IRS regulations.

8. Continuing Disclosure

The board treasurer shall assure compliance with each continuing disclosure certificate and annually, per continuing disclosure agreements, file audited annual financial statements and other information required by each continuing disclosure agreement. The

board treasurer will monitor material events as described in each continuing disclosure agreement and assure compliance with material event disclosure. Events to be reported shall be reported promptly, but in no event not later than 10 business days after the day of the occurrence of the event. Currently, such notice shall be given in the event of:

- a) Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- b) Non-payment related defaults, if material;
- c) Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- d) Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements relating to the bonds reflecting financial difficulties;
- e) Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- f) Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB), or other material notices, or determinations with respect to the tax-exempt status of the bonds, or material events affecting the tax-exempt status of the bonds;
- g) Modifications to rights of Holders of the Bonds, if material;
- h) Bond calls (excluding sinking fund mandatory redemptions), if material and tender offers;
- i) Defeasances of the bonds;
- j) Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the bonds, if material;
- k) Rating changes on the bonds;
- l) Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer;
- m) The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; and
- n) Appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.
- o) Incurrence of a financial obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material; and
- p) Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 257.31(4); 279.8;

.25; 298A (2011).

Approved 3/19/2012

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 3/19/2012

INVESTMENTS

School district funds in excess of current needs are invested in compliance with this policy. The goals of the school district's investment portfolio in order of priority are:

- To provide safety of the principal;
- To maintain the necessary liquidity to match expected liabilities; and
- To obtain a reasonable rate of return.

In making investments, the school district will exercise the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use to meet the goals of the investment program.

School district funds are monies of the school district, including operating funds. "Operating funds" of the school district are funds which are reasonably expected to be used during a current budget year or within fifteen months of receipt. When investing operating funds, the investments must mature within three hundred and ninety-seven days or less. If, during the current budget year an amount of public funds will exceed operating funds by at least thirty-three percent, the amount of public funds that exceed operating funds by greater than thirty-three percent may be invested in certificates of deposit at federally insured depository institutions which mature within sixty-three months or less, in accordance with state and federal laws. When investing funds other than operating funds, the investments must mature according to the need for the funds.

The board authorizes the treasurer to invest funds in excess of current needs in the following investments.

- Interest bearing savings, money market, and checking accounts at the school district's authorized depositories;
- Iowa Schools Joint Investment Trust Program (ISJIT);
- Obligations of the United States government, its agencies and instrumentalities;
- Certificates of deposit and other evidences of deposit at federally insured Iowa depository institutions; and
- any other investments approved by the board.

It is the responsibility of the treasurer to oversee the investment portfolio in compliance with this policy and the law.

It will also be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the treasurer, to develop a system of investment practices and internal controls over the investment practices. The investment practices are designed to prevent losses, to document the officers' and employees' responsibility for elements of the investment process and address the capability of the management.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 11.2, .6; 12.62; 12B.10; 10A; 12C; 22.1, .14; 28E.2; 257; 279.29; 283A; 285; 502.701; 633.123.

Approved 9/14/1992
 Reviewed 7/8/2019
 Revised 9/9/2019

STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND

Revenue raised by students or from student activities is deposited and accounted for in the student activities fund. This revenue is the property of and is under the financial control of the board. Students may use this revenue for purposes approved by the superintendent or building principal.

Whether such revenue is collected from student contributions, club dues, and special activities or result from admissions to special events or from other fund-raising activities, all funds will be under the jurisdiction of the board and under the specific control of the superintendent or building principal. They will be deposited in a designated depository and will be disbursed and accounted for in accordance with instructions issued by the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the board secretary to keep student activity accounts up-to-date and complete.

Any unencumbered class or activity account balances will automatically revert to the activity fund when a class graduates or an activity is discontinued.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8

Approved 5/13/2019

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 5/13/2019

PAYMENT FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

The board authorizes the issue of warrants for payment of claims against the school district for goods and services. The board will allow the warrants after the goods and services have been received and accepted in compliance with board policy and the claims audited by the board.

Claims for payment of freight, postage, printing, water, utilities, telephone, internet lines, student travel expenses, rents, credit card processing fees, and payment of salaries pursuant to the terms of a written contract may be paid by the board secretary prior to formal audit and approval by the board. In addition, the board secretary, upon approval of the board president, may issue warrants for verified bills filed with the secretary when the board is not in session prior to payment and prior to audit and approval by the board. The board secretary shall examine the claims and verified bills.

A facsimile signature of the President and Secretary of the Board will appear on all checks drawn in the name of the District.

The secretary shall determine to the secretary's satisfaction that the claims presented to the board are in order and are legitimate expenses of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the secretary to bring claims to the board.

Approved 11/11/1991
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/9/2016

EXPENDITURES FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE

The board recognizes that school district funds are public funds, and as such, should be used to further a public purpose and the overall educational mission of the school community. The district is committed to managing and spending public funds in a transparent and responsible manner. Prior to making a purchase with public funds, an individual should be comfortable defending the purchase/reimbursement to the taxpayers in the district. If the individual is uncomfortable doing so, the purchase may not fulfill a public purpose and additional guidance should be sought before the purchase is made. Individuals who have concerns about the public purpose of a purchase or reimbursement contact the superintendent and/or the board president.

The superintendent shall develop a process for approving expenditures of public funds. The board will review expenditures and applicable reports as necessary to ensure proper oversight of the use of public funds. To the extent possible, expenditures shall be pre-approved by the district prior to expending the funds. Purchases of food and refreshment for district staff, even within district, should comply with the district's Employee Travel Compensation policy, and all other applicable policies. All purchases/reimbursements shall comply with applicable laws, board policies and district accounting requirements.

Additional guidance regarding appropriate expenditures of school funds is provided in the regulation accompanying this policy

Legal References: Iowa Constitution Art. III, sec. 31;
Iowa Code §§ 68A.505; 279.8; 721.2.
281 I.A.C. 98.70
1979 Op. Atty. Gen., No. 79-4-26

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USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS REGULATION

The following is a list of examples organized by activity for what is allowable, or not allowable as a purchase/reimbursement using public funds. This regulation is intended as guidance and there may be situations that are not listed here. Any questions regarding the appropriateness of an expenditure should be submitted to administration **prior** to expending funds.

Reimbursements to an Individual

- Use of Credit/Procurement Card: All purchases through a district-owned credit shall be pre-approved and comply with the district's policy *401.10 – Credit Cards*.
- Mileage: Individuals who are required to travel (other than to and from work) as part of fulfilling their job duties to the district shall be reimbursed for mileage costs in accordance with the requirements stated in the district's *Employee Travel Compensation* policy.
- Travel accommodations: Employees who are required to travel and stay overnight as part of fulfilling their job duties to the district shall be reimbursed for costs in accordance with the requirements stated in the district's *Employee Travel Compensation* policy.
- Alcohol: Alcohol is a personal expense and is never allowable for purchase or reimbursement using public funds.
- Food/Refreshments: Food and refreshments are typically a personal expense. Meetings spanning meal times should be avoided when possible. When a district meeting is required to take place spanning a customary meal time, the superintendent or designee shall determine whether food and/or refreshment will be provided to employees whose presence is required during the meeting. The cost of food and refreshment for employees shall be reasonable, and when possible, a separate itemized receipt for each employee is required. In all cases, the names and number of employees shall be noted on the receipt.
- Apparel/Personal Items: Apparel and personal items including, but not limited to items such as t-shirts, hats, mugs, etc. provide personal benefit to individuals and are a personal expense. These items shall not be purchased or reimbursed with public funds.
- Coaches, Sponsors, and Employees Apparel: Apparel purchases for safety reasons, coaches and sponsors for school activities for identification purposes, and related to purposes of the district's mission are allowable as long as such apparel does not have personal identification to the individual, is not worn at any time outside of the school or the school activity, and since it is the property of the school district, it is returned to the school district when that individual leaves employment with the district. Purchase

of this apparel should be infrequent and on a limited basis and should be pre-approved by the superintendent.

- Gifts: Gift cards or gifts given to individuals are personal expenses and public funds should not be used (except for recognition/staff retirement, listed below) for these purposes. Voluntary collections from staff would be an acceptable way of purchasing gifts.
- Retirement and Recognition Gifts: Recognizing an employee or volunteer's years of dedication to educating the community and commitment to the district serves a public purpose by honoring individuals with a token gift, or honorarium, in recognition of their service. The same is true for individual awards, mementos, or items purchased in recognition of employee service to the district. These purchases may use public funds, provided the expenditures are modest and approved by the superintendent.
- Honoraria: District employees may at times receive an honorarium from an outside source as compensation for the employee's time devoted to preparing and delivering a presentation within the scope of their professional field. Honorariums may only be accepted by employees when the employee has used their personal time outside of their work for the district to prepare and deliver the presentation. If the employee uses district time or resources to prepare or deliver a presentation, any honorarium shall be given to the district.

Supplies for Public Areas

- Limited refreshments such as water and coffee may be available in public reception areas of the district including, but not limited to the central office, the building administrator's office, etc. These refreshments may be purchased with the use of public funds, as they provide light refreshment to members of the community.

Staff Parties/Receptions

- Parties and receptions to benefit individual staff members are considered a personal expense and should not be purchased or reimbursed with public funds. This includes but is not limited to holiday parties.
- Hosting a group reception to honor all employees retiring from the district in a given school year is allowable as a public expense. Hosting a retirement reception provides a direct benefit to the community as an opportunity for the community to attend and honor the retiring employees' years of dedication and service to the district.

School/ Student Activity Banquets

- School/student activity banquets are typically a personal expense and will not be purchased or reimbursed with public funds unless the public purpose is submitted for review and pre-approved by the superintendent.

Memorial Gifts

- Memorial flowers to convey sympathy or congratulations are allowable as a public expense if they have been approved by the superintendent. Memorial cards are always appropriate.
- Memorial gifts of any sort other than flowers and a card are a personal expense.

Student Incentives

- It is within the discretion of the building principal to authorize the purchase of awards holding a nominal value to commemorate the achievements of a student or group of students. These awards should be designed to reward behavior and values that exemplify the educational and community mission of the district. Awards should not be gift cards or other monetary awards.
- Flowers and decorations for school dances held as part of the district's student activity program are an allowable expense paid out of the student activity fund, provided the purchases are approved by the building principal.

Meetings

- To the extent possible, meetings which span normal meal times should be avoided.
- Meetings of the district's board of directors and board committees are made up of individuals who volunteer a large amount of their personal time to serve the needs of the school community. These meetings are also scheduled at time most convenient for the public, and often span normal meal hours. Food and refreshment purchased for board members is an acceptable use of public funds. The service of these unpaid volunteers directly benefits the entire school community. The superintendent has discretion to purchase/reimburse reasonable expenses for providing food and refreshment to these unpaid volunteers during these meetings.

Some expenditures will be considered personal expenses regardless of the context. These include purchase or reimbursement of alcohol, and personal items not included as retirement or memorial gifts listed above.

Approved 6/10/2019
Reviewed 6/10/2019
Revised 6/10/2019

PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

Ease of administration is the primary consideration for payroll deductions, other than those required by law. Payroll deductions are made for federal income tax withholdings, Iowa income tax withholdings, social security and Medicare contributions, and the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS).

The district may deduct wages as required or allowed by state or federal law or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction. Employees may elect to have amounts withheld from their pay for items authorized by law, subject to agreement of the district. Requests for these deductions will be made in writing to the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent or superintendent's designee to determine which additional payroll deductions will be allowed.

Approved 2/9/1970
Reviewed 5/10/2021
Revised 5/10/2021

PAY DEDUCTIONS

The district provides leaves of absences to allow employees to be absent from work to attend to important matters outside of the workplace. As public employers, school districts are expected to record and monitor the work that employees perform and to conform to principles of public accountability in their compensation practices.

Consistent with principles of public accountability, it is the policy of the district that, when an employee is absent from work for less than one work day and the employee does not use accrued leave for such absence, the employee's pay will be reduced or the employee will be placed on leave without pay if:

- the employee has not sought permission to use paid leave for this partial-day absence,
- the employee has sought permission to use paid leave for this partial-day absence and permission has been denied,
- the employee's accrued paid leave has been exhausted, or,
- the employee chooses to use leave without pay.

In each case in which an employee is absent from work for part of a work day, a deduction from compensation will be made or the employee will be placed on leave without pay for a period of time which is equal to the employee's absence from the employee's regularly scheduled hours of work on that day.

Legal Reference:

[29 U.S.C. Sec. 213](#)(a) (2012)

[29 C.F.R. Part 541](#) (2012)

Approved 6/11/2018

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 6/11/2018

SECRETARY'S REPORTS

The board secretary will report to the board each month about the receipts, disbursements and balances of the various funds. This report will be in written form and sent to the board with the agenda for the board meeting.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 291.7

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/13/2019

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

At the annual meeting, the treasurer will give the annual report stating the amount held over, received, paid out, and on hand in the general and all other funds. This report is in written form and sent to the board with the agenda for the board meeting. The treasurer will also furnish the board with a sworn statement from each depository showing the balance then on deposit.

It is the responsibility of the treasurer to submit this report to the board annually.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.31, .33

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Revised 5/13/2019

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Each month the schedule of bills allowed by the board is published in a newspaper designated as a newspaper for official publication. Annually, the total salaries paid to employees regularly employed by the school district will also be published in a newspaper designated as a newspaper for official publication.

It is the responsibility of the board secretary to publish these reports in a timely manner.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.35, .36; 618
1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 133.

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/13/2019

FINANCIAL AUDIT

In accordance with state law, to review the funds and accounts of the school district, the board will employ an independent auditor to perform an annual audit of the financial affairs of the school district. The superintendent will use a request for proposal procedure in selecting an auditor. The administration will cooperate with the auditors. Annual audit reports shall remain on file as permanent records of the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 11.6

Approved 5/14/1990

Reviewed 5/10/2021

Revised 5/10/2021

INTERNAL CONTROLS

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

Internal controls are used to help ensure the integrity of district financial and accounting information. Adherence to district-established internal control procedures is the responsibility of all employees of the school district. The superintendent and board secretary shall be responsible for developing internal controls designed to prevent and detect fraud, financial impropriety, or fiscal irregularities within the school district subject to review and approval by the board. Administrators shall be alert for any indication of fraud, financial impropriety, or irregularity within the administrator's area of responsibility.

Any employee who suspects fraud, impropriety, or irregularity shall report their suspicions immediately to their immediate supervisor and the superintendent. The superintendent and Board President shall have primary responsibility for any necessary investigations and shall coordinate investigative efforts with the board's legal counsel, auditing firm, the Auditor of the State's office, and other internal or external departments and agencies, including law enforcement officials, as the superintendent and Board President may deem appropriate.

Employees bringing forth a legitimate concern about a potential impropriety will not be retaliated against and those who do retaliate against such an employee will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, discharge.

In the event the concern or complaint involves the superintendent, the concern shall be brought to the attention of the board president or vice-president, who shall be empowered to contact the board's legal counsel, Auditor of State's office, insurance agent, auditing firm, and any other agency to investigate the concern or complaint.

The superintendent or board president shall ensure the Auditor of State's office is notified as required by law of any suspected embezzlement, theft or other financial irregularity pursuant to Iowa law. The superintendent and/or board president in coordination with the Auditor of State's office, will determine whether to conduct a complete or partial audit. The superintendent is authorized to order a complete forensic audit if, in the superintendent's judgment, such an audit would be useful and beneficial to the school district. In the event there is an

investigation, records will be maintained for use in the investigation. Individuals found to have altered or destroyed records will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Legal References: American Competitiveness and Corporate Accountability Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-204.
Iowa Code ch. 11, 279.8

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 5/10/2021
Revised 5/10/2021

SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

School District records shall be housed in the administrative offices of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the School Board Secretary to oversee the maintenance and accuracy of the records. The following records shall be kept and preserved, according to the schedule below:

- * Secretary's financial records - Permanently
- * Treasurer's financial records - Permanently
- * Open meeting minutes of the Board of Directors - Permanently
- * Annual audit reports - Permanently
- * Annual budget - Permanently
- * Permanent record of individual pupil - Permanently
- * School election results - Permanently
- * Real property records (e.g., deeds, abstracts) - Permanently
- * Records of payment of judgments against the school district - 20 years
- * Bonds and bond coupons - 11 years after maturity, cancellation, transfer, redemption, and/or replacement
- * Written contracts - 10 years
- * Canceled warrants, check stubs, bank statements, bills, invoices, and related records - 5 years
- * Recordings and minutes of closed meetings - 1 year
- * Program grants - As determined by the grant
- * Nonpayroll personnel records - 10 years after leaving the district
- * Payroll records - 3 years
- * School meal programs accounts/records - 3 years after submission of the final claim for reimbursement

Personnel records shall be housed in the administrative offices of the school district. The personnel records shall be maintained by the Superintendent, principal, and the School Board Secretary.

A video recording of the furniture, equipment, and other non-consumable items other than real property of the school district shall be conducted annually under the supervision of the Superintendent and stored in the bank vault box.

The permanent and cumulative records of students currently enrolled in the school district shall be housed in the administrative office of the attendance center where the student attends. Permanent student records will be kept in fire-safe storage except as noted below. The building principal shall be responsible for keeping these records current.

Records of students who have graduated or are no longer enrolled in the school district shall be housed in the high school administrative office. The permanent

student records of each graduating high school class will be scanned onto electronically stored permanent records and after two years the paper copies of these graduating class records will be destroyed. The School Board Secretary will store an electronic copy of each graduating class permanent records file in the bank vault box and each graduating class' permanent electronic records file will be updated annually onto a new data storage device.

The secretary is authorized, after making an electronic copy of the School Board's records, to destroy paper records that have been in the Board Secretary's custody for three years. An electronic record meets the same legal requirements as the original record.

Legal Reference: 7 C.F.R. § 210.23(c).

Iowa Code §§ 22.3; 22.7; 91A.6; 279.8; 291.6; 554D.114;
554D.119; 614.1(13).

281 I.A.C. 12.3(4); 41.624.

City of Sioux City v. Greater Sioux City Press Club, 421
N.W.2d 895 (Iowa 1988).

Approved 6/12/1989

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 11/9/2015

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

The school district will operate a school nutrition program in each attendance center. The school nutrition program will include meals through participation in the National School Lunch Program. Students may bring their lunches from home and purchase milk and other incidental items.

School nutrition program facilities are provided to serve students and employees when school is in session and during school-related activities. They may also be used under the supervision of the Nutrition Director for food service to employee groups, parent-teacher meetings, civic organizations meeting for the purpose of better understanding the schools, and senior citizens in accordance with law and board policy.

The school nutrition program is operated on a nonprofit basis. The revenues of the school nutrition program will be used only for the operation or improvement of such programs. Supplies of the school nutrition program will only be used for the school nutrition program.

The board will set, and annually review, the prices for school nutrition programs. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation regarding the prices of the school nutrition programs, in accordance with federal and state law.

It is the responsibility of Nutrition Director to administer the program and to cooperate with the superintendent and appropriate personnel for the proper functioning of the school nutrition program.

The district shall comply with all federal and state laws and regulations required for procurement, including the selection and evaluation of contractors. The superintendent or designee is responsible for developing an administrative process to implement this policy, including, but not limited to, procedures related to suspension and debarment for transactions subject to those requirements.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 *et seq.*.
7 C.F.R. Pt. 210 *et seq.*.
Iowa Code ch. 283A.
281 I.A.C. 58.

Approved 6/11/2018
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 9/10/2018

FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS ELIGIBILITY

Students enrolled and attending school in the school district who meet USDA eligibility guidelines will be provided the school nutrition program services at no cost or at a reduced price. The school district shall make reasonable efforts to prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced price meals.

The district shall at least twice annually notify all families of the availability, eligibility criteria, and application procedures for free or reduced price meals in accordance with state and federal law.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent's Secretary to determine the eligibility of students for free or reduced price school nutrition programs, in accordance with criteria established by state and federal law. If school personnel have knowledge of a student who is in need of free or reduced-price meals, school personnel shall contact the Superintendent's Secretary.

Employees will be required to pay for meals consumed.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for implementing this policy.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 *et seq.*.
7 C.F.R. §§ 210 *et seq.*.
Iowa Code § 283A.
281 I.A.C. 58.

Approved 1/12/1976
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 6/10/2019

VENDING MACHINES

Food served or purchased by students during the school day and food served or purchased for other than special circumstances is approved by the superintendent. Vending machines in the school building are the responsibility of the building principal. Purchases from the vending machines, will reflect the guidelines in the Wellness policy.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for the use of vending machines and other sales of food to students.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 *et seq.* (2010).
7 C.F.R. Pt. 210 *et seq.* (2010).
Iowa Code ch. 283A
281 I.A.C. 58.

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/13/2019

MEAL CHARGES

In accordance with state and federal law, the Mount Vernon Community School District adopts the following policy to ensure school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day, prevent the overt identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals, and maintain the financial integrity of the nonprofit school nutrition program.

Payment of Meals

Each student has a meal account set up for them in the district's on-line nutrition software. Parents can add funds to their child's account on-line or by sending funds to school. Each meal or ala carte purchase is recorded on the breakfast and lunch line computers and deducted from the student's account. Parents can go on-line and review their student's account balance and details of the food purchases as well as set up a variety of options to help them limit or monitor their student's account. If the student's meal account balance becomes low, the software will email the parents to remind them to add funds to the account. The schools may send home a deposit envelope when balances become low. As the student's account balance reaches negative \$20, the school may call or email the parent to remind them to add funds. Parents can go online and select options to limit the dollar amounts that their children can spend on meals and ala carte purchases.

All students can at any time request a sun butter sandwich and a small milk as their meal for breakfast or lunch.

Negative Account Balances

Parents are encouraged to monitor their student's account balance on-line or by the low balance emails to avoid having the student's meal account become negative. The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low.

The school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. The school district will coordinate communications with families to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Negative balances not paid in a reasonable amount of time may be turned over to the superintendent's designee for collection by collection agencies or any other legal method permitted by law. Regardless of the student's meal account balance, students in the breakfast line or lunch line purchasing a meal will not be denied that meal.

Communication of the Policy

The policy and supporting information regarding meal charges shall be provided in writing to:

- All households at or before the start of each school year;
- Students and families who transfer into the district, at time of transfer; and
- All staff responsible for enforcing any aspect of the policy.

Records of how and when the policy and supporting information was communicated to households and staff will be retained.

The superintendent may develop an administrative process to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 *et seq.*

7 C.F.R. §§ 210 *et seq.*

U.S. DEP'T OF AGRIC., SP 46-2016, UNPAID MEAL CHARGES: LOCAL MEAL CHARGE POLICIES (2016).

U.S. DEP'T OF AGRIC., SP 47-2016, UNPAID MEAL CHARGES: CLARIFICATION ON COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT MEAL PAYMENTS (2016).

U.S. DEP'T OF AGRIC., SP 57-2016, UNPAID MEAL CHARGES: GUIDANCE AND Q&A (2016).

Iowa Code 283A.

281 I.A.C. 58.

Approved 2/12/2018

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 9/10/2018

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The board in its discretion may provide school district transportation for extracurricular activities including, but not limited to, transporting student participants and other students to and from extracurricular events.

Students participating or attending extracurricular events, other than those held at the school district facilities, may be transported to the extracurricular event by school district transportation vehicles or by another means approved by the superintendent.

Students, who are provided transportation in school district transportation vehicles for extracurricular events, will ride both to and from the event in the school vehicle unless arrangements have been made with the building principal prior to the event. A student's parent may personally appear and request to transport the student home from a school-sponsored event in which the student traveled to the event on a school district transportation vehicle.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256B.4; 285.1-.4; 321 (2011).
281 I.A.C. 41.412.

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/13/2019

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

The school district may use school vehicles for transportation to and from summer extracurricular activities.

Transportation to and from the student's attendance center for summer school instructional programs is within the discretion of the board. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation regarding transportation of students in summer school instructional programs at the expense of the school district. In making the recommendation to the board, the superintendent will consider the financial condition of the school district, the number of students involved in summer school programs, and other factors deemed relevant by the board or the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 285.10
281 I.A.C. 43.10, 412

Approved 5/13/2019
Reviewed 7/8/2019
Revised 5/13/2019

TRANSPORTATION IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

Mount Vernon school buses will not operate when weather conditions make it unsafe to do so. A final judgment will be made by the superintendent or superintendent's designee based on the most complete information available from the transportation director, drivers, and other sources.

Once on the route, a driver may make his or her own decisions regarding stopping in a weather-induced poor visibility situation. If a stop is bypassed, an effort will be made to contact the parties involved as quickly as possible to discuss alternate plans.

School will not be in session when the transportation system is inoperative. Announcements of school closings or changes in the school or transportation schedule will be communicated through major television and radio stations as quickly as possible.

Approved 9/8/1980

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 9/8/1980

VEHICLE IDLING

The board recognizes that it has a role in reducing environmental pollutants and in assisting students and others be free from pollutants that may impact their respiratory health. Unnecessary vehicle idling emits pollutants and wastes fuel. The board directs the superintendent, in conjunction with the Director of Transportation, to work on administrative regulations to implement this policy and reduce school vehicle idling time.

Approved 9/9/2013

Reviewed 7/8/2019

Revised 9/9/2019

SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER RESTRAINTS

The district shall utilize three-point lap-shoulder belts on district school buses as required by state law. All three-point lap-shoulder belts available on district buses will be used by passengers when the vehicle is in any non-stationary gear.

Approved 11/11/2019
Reviewed 11/11/2019
Revised 11/11/2019