

PURCHASING PROCEDURES

General

1. The Board designates the Superintendent/designee as the purchasing agent.
2. No person may commit the District to a purchase without the appropriate certificate of the availability of funds.
3. The materials, equipment, supplies and/or services to be purchased are of the quality required to serve the function in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the requisitioner and the Superintendent/designee.
4. It is the responsibility of the requisitioner to provide an adequate description of the item(s) purchased so that the purchasing agent may be able to prepare the specifications and to procure most expeditiously and economically the desired commodity and/or service. A source of supply should be included on requisitions for specialty or unusual items.
5. No requisitioner shall knowingly restrict competition or otherwise preclude the most economical purchase of the required items.
6. When a low bidder proposes an alternate as equal to that specified, it is the responsibility of the Treasurer/designee to determine whether the proposed substitution is, in fact, an equal. Such decision is based on his/her evaluation and that of the requisitioner. In the case of disagreement between the requisitioner and the Treasurer, either party may refer the matter to the Superintendent.

Requisitions

1. The District establishes a standardized requisition procedure to allow authorized representatives to submit requests for the purchase of materials and supplies.
2. The following are designated as “requisitioner”; that is, they are authorized to issue requisitions against stipulated segments of budgetary appropriations: the Superintendent, administrative assistants, directors, supervisors and building principals. Each requisitioner is responsible for limiting his/her requisitions to the appropriate amounts.
3. Only District-approved methods or forms are used for requisitioning.
4. A requisition, to be considered appropriate for processing, meets the following requirements:
 - A. contains adequate information and
 - B. is approved by and bears the signature of an authorized requisitioner.

5. All approved requisitions are submitted to the Treasurer.
6. After a purchase order has been issued by the Treasurer's Office, the number of the purchase order is recorded on the requisition.
7. After processing, the original copy of the requisition is filed in the office of the Treasurer.

Purchase Orders

1. Purchase orders are prepared by the appropriate person and at a minimum include the following essentials:
 - A. a specification which adequately describes to the supplier the characteristics and the quality standards of the item required;
 - B. a firm, quoted, net-delivered price, whenever possible (unit prices are shown);
 - C. clear delivery instructions, including place and time;
 - D. appropriate account code number or appropriation code and
 - E. the Treasurer's signature certifying available revenue to cover the appropriation.
2. Purchase orders use an identifiable tracking system established by the District and contain the appropriate number of copies to meet District needs. The Board is not liable for payment of bills for supplies and materials that do not bear a purchase order number.
3. Verbal confirmation orders subject to subsequent confirmation by a written purchase order may be issued only in cases in which a bona fide emergency situation exists which can be handled only by this procedure:
 - A. whenever possible, a purchase order number should be given to the supplier and
 - B. a confirming requisition is issued immediately, marked "confirmation" indicating the purchase order number, if one was given.

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NOTE: Most boards wish to review and give their official stamp of approval to procedural regulations involving purchasing, but a board would not be expected to develop such a regulation – only to review and approve it.

The Uniform Grant Guidance (Uniform Guidance) outlined in 2 CFR 200 outlines the requirements for purchases made through the use of federal funds. Districts should ensure district procedures for purchasing items with federal funds are in compliance with the Uniform Guidance requirements. Districts may customize this regulation to reflect district practice for purchases made with federal funds.