

**BUSINESS and FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT**

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**7.101F-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE VISA PURCHASING
CARD AND TERMS OF REVOCATION FORM**

***TASD SUBSCRIBES TO THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL
BOARDS ASSOCIATION (ASBA) MODEL POLICY
SERVICE; THEREFORE THE COPYRIGHT OF POLICIES
IS OWNED BY ASBA.***

***THE BOLD ITALICS FONT INDICATES TASD
LANGUAGE.***

7.1—FISCAL YEAR

The District's fiscal year shall begin July 1 and end on the following June 30.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-20-410

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised:

7.2—ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

The superintendent shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual operating budget for the district. The superintendent shall present the budget to the Board for its review, modification, and approval.

The budget shall be prepared in the electronic format as prescribed by the State Board of Education and filed with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education no later than September 30 of each year.

The approved budget shall provide for expenditures that are within anticipated revenues and reserves. The district treasurer shall present monthly reconciliation reports and a statement on the general financial condition of the district monthly to the Board.

Any changes made to the budget shall be in accordance with district policy and state law.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-701(e)(3)
 A.C.A. § 6-20-2202

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.3—MILLAGE RATE

At least sixty (60) days in advance of the school election when the electors shall determine the annual ad valorem property tax for the District, the Board shall publish at least one time in some newspaper published or having a bona fide circulation in the county where the District's property lies the District's proposed budget, which shall include a millage rate sufficient to provide the funds necessary for the District's operation.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-622
 Arkansas Constitution: Article 14 Section 3 (c) as amended by Amendment 74

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: April 21, 2020

7.4—GRANTS AND SPECIAL FUNDING

The Superintendent or his/her designee may apply for grants or special funding for the District. Any grants or special funding that require matching District resources shall receive Board approval prior to the filing of the grant's or special resource's application.

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised:

7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT

Purchases shall be made in accordance with state laws and procurement procedures governing school purchases that are deemed to be in the best interest of the district and are the result of fair and open competition between qualified bidders and suppliers. No bids shall be taken for professional services.

DEFINITIONS

“Commodities” are all supplies, goods, material, equipment, computers, software, machinery, facilities, personal property, and services, other than personal and professional services, purchased on behalf of the district.

“Micro-purchases” are purchases with a value of less than:

- Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) when purchased with Federal funds; or
- The State bid purchase threshold for purchases for the District’s child nutrition programs when purchased with Federal funds.

“Professional services” are legal, financial advisory, architectural, engineering, construction management, and land surveying professional consultant services.

“Specifications” means a technical description or other description of the physical and/or functional characteristics of a commodity.

“State bid purchase threshold” means the purchase threshold amount set in A.C.A. § 6-21-304 and updated by Commissioner’s Memo that requires District purchases be through the District’s formal purchase procedures, such as sealed bids.

Commodities

The superintendent shall develop procedures for the procurement of micro-purchases that provide for the distribution of purchases between eligible vendors to the extent possible.

Purchases of commodities with a purchase price of more than *ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)* require prior board approval; however, if an emergency exists, the Superintendent may waive this requirement.

The district shall notify in writing all actual or prospective bidders, offerors, or contractors who make a written request to the district for notification of opportunities to bid. The notification shall be made in sufficient time to allow actual or prospective bidders, offerors, or contractors to submit a bid or other appropriate response. The Board shall accept bids submitted electronically by e-mail or fax for any and all district purchases, unless specified to be submitted by other means or methods, and except those bids which have been specified to have a designated date upon which the bids shall be opened. The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring submitted bids, whether written, faxed, or e-mailed, are retained in accordance with Policy 7.15—RECORD RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION.

The district will not solicit bids or otherwise contract for a sum greater than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) with vendors that are on the “excluded parties list” if the contract is to be paid from federal funds.

7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT, continued, page 2

The District shall not knowingly enter into any type of transaction with an individual or entity that performs abortions, induces abortions, or provides abortions.

All purchases of commodities with an estimated purchase price that equals or exceeds the micro-purchase threshold or the State bid purchase threshold shall be procured by soliciting bids. Specifications shall be devised for all commodities to be bid that are specific enough to ensure uniformity of the bid and yet not so restrictive that it would prevent competitive bidding. The bid specifications shall not include the name or identity of any specific vendor. The Board reserves the right to reject all bids and to purchase the commodity by negotiating a contract. In such an instance, each responsible bidder who submitted a bid shall be notified and given a reasonable opportunity to negotiate. ***Bid splitting will not be allowed.***

Bids shall be awarded after careful examination of the details of the bid to determine the best overall value to the district. In instances where the low bid was not accepted, a statement of the reasons the low bid was not accepted shall be attached to the bid. Bidders submitting written bids shall be notified in writing of the bid award.

Whenever possible, a preference will be given to small and minority businesses; women's business enterprises; and labor surplus area firms.

The district shall provide a preference to Arkansas residents whenever the district is accepting bids to purchase materials and equipment as part of a construction project if:

- a. One (1) or more Arkansas residents who submitted bids made written claim for a preference at the time they submitted a bid; and
- b. An Arkansas resident's bid does not exceed the lowest qualified bid from a non-resident by more than five percent (5%).

If the qualifications for the Arkansas resident preference are met, then the district shall take the lowest bid from an Arkansas resident regardless of whether the Arkansas resident was one of the individuals who requested the preference.

The following commodities may be purchased with state funds without soliciting bids provided that the purchasing official determines in writing that it is not practicable to use other than the required or designated commodity or service, and a copy of the written determination is attached to the purchase order:

1. Commodities in instances of an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency;
2. Commodities available only from the federal government;
3. Utility services;
4. Used equipment and machinery; and
5. Commodities available only from a single source.

Commodity purchases with federal funds may be purchased without soliciting bids only when one or more of the following circumstances apply:

1. The item is available only from a single source;

7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT, continued, page 3

2. The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation;
3. The federal awarding agency or appropriate unit of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education expressly authorizes the non-competitive purchase in response to a written request from the district; or
4. After solicitation of a number of sources, competition is determined inadequate.

The district may purchase a new motor vehicle, other than a school bus, without soliciting bids if, at the time of the purchase, the:

- a. Purchase is from a motor vehicle dealer licensed in Arkansas;
- b. Purchase price of the motor vehicle does not exceed the fleet price awarded by the Office of State Procurement; and
- c. Motor vehicle to be purchased is the same make and model motor vehicle as the make and model the fleet price was awarded for by the Office of State Procurement.

Prospective bidders, offerors, or contractors may appeal to the district's superintendent if they believe the district failed to follow district bidding and purchasing policy or state law.

Any award of a contract shall be subject to revocation for ten (10) working days from:

- The initial awarding of the contract; or
- If an appeal is received, resolution of the appeal.

The intent is to provide prospective bidders, offerors, or contractors the opportunity to appeal the bid award if they believe the facts warrant an appeal. Any appeal shall be **in writing by certified mail** and received by the district office, "attention to the superintendent" within seven (7) calendar days following the initial and revocable award of the contract.

If the district receives an appeal of a bid award, they shall notify, in writing, those prospective bidders, offerors, or contractors who have made a written request to the district for notification of opportunities to bid that an appeal has been submitted. The notification shall state:

- That the contract award has been halted pending resolution of the appeal and could be revoked;
- The reasons for the appeal;
- That the recipient of the letter may respond to the protested issues identified in the appeal;
- The date the decision on the appeal will be made and notification sent;
- That if the appeal is upheld, the bidding process will be re-opened;
- That if the bidding is re-opened, changes will be made to the request for bids as necessary to satisfy the reasons for upholding the appeal.

The sole authority to resolve any appeal made relating to this policy shall rest with the superintendent. The superintendent's decision shall be final and conclusive. In the event the district upholds an appeal, the sole responsibility of the district to the aggrieved bidder(s) shall be the re-opening of the bidding process.

Except when prohibited by law, the district reserves the right to extend or renew a contract that was previously awarded under the process governed by this policy and law, provided the extension or renewal meet the following criteria:

7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT, continued, page 4

1. The equipment and services provided under the extended or renewed contract meets or exceeds the specifications of the original bid.
2. The extended or renewed contract agreement complies with the state of Arkansas's documentation requirements.
3. The cost of the extended or renewed contract is the same or less than the original contract.
4. The extension or renewal is approved by the local school board.

Professional Services

The district does not use a bidding process when procuring professional services. Instead, when the district needs to procure professional services, the district shall:

1. Select three (3) qualified firms;
2. Determine the most qualified firm by considering, at a minimum, the:
 - Specialized experience and technical competence of the firm with respect to the type of professional services required;
 - Capacity and capability of the firm to perform the work in question, including specialized services, within the time limitations fixed for the completion of the project;
 - Past record of performance of the firm with respect to such factors as control of costs, quality of work, and ability to meet schedules and deadlines; and
 - Firm's proximity to and familiarity with the area in which the project is located;
3. Negotiate a contract for the project with the most qualified firm.

When negotiating a contract, the district and the selected firm shall jointly prepare a detailed, written description of the scope of the proposed services. If the district is unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm selected, negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the district shall negotiate a contract with the next most qualified firm. In the event the district is unable to negotiate a contract with any of the original selected firms, the district shall reevaluate the necessary professional services, including the scope and reasonable fee requirements, and return to step one.

The district encourages firms who provide professional services to submit annual statements of qualifications and performance data to the district. The district shall request any additional information as needed for a particular public project.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-2201 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 6-21-301, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307
 A.C.A. § 6-24-101 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 15-4-3801 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 18-44-503
 A.C.A. § 19-11-259
 A.C.A. § 19-11-801 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 22-9-203
 DESE rules Governing the Student Protection Act
 2 C.F.R. § 200.67
 2 C.F.R. § 200.319
 2 C.F.R. § 200.320

2 C.F.R. § 200.321
2 C.F.R. § 200.324
48 C.F.R. § 2.101

Date Adopted: December 16, 2013
Last Revised: July 19, 2022

7.5F1—COMMODITIES BIDDER AFFIDAVIT

TEXARKANA SCHOOL DISTRICT

MILLER COUNTY

I, _____, hereby state:

(1) I am the duly authorized agent of _____, the bidder submitting the competitive bid which is attached to this statement. I certify the facts as detailed below pertaining to the non-existence of collusion among and between bidders and state officials, as well as to the facts pertaining to the giving or offering of things of value to government personnel in return for special consideration in the awarding of any contract pursuant to the bid to which this statement is attached.

(2) I am fully aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding the making of the bid to which this statement is attached and have been personally and directly involved in the proceedings leading to the submission of the bid.

(3) Neither the bidder nor anyone subject to the bidder's direction or control has been a party:

(A) To any collusion among bidders in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from bidding;

(B) To any collusion with any state official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or as to any other terms of the prospective contract; or

(C) In any discussions between bidders and any state official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the awarding of a contract.

(4) I hereby guarantee that the specifications outlined in the bid shall be followed as specified and that deviations from the specifications shall occur only as part of a formal change process approved by the Board of Directors of the school district.

Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Notary Public”

Date Adopted: February 21, 2006

Last Revised:

7.5F2— FOOD SERVICE COMMODITIES BIDDER AFFIDAVIT

TEXARKANA ARKANSAS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MILLER COUNTY

I, _____, hereby state:

- (1) I am the duly authorized agent of _____, the bidder submitting the competitive bid which is attached to this statement. I certify the facts as detailed below pertaining to the non-existence of collusion among and between bidders and state officials, as well as to the facts pertaining to the giving or offering of things of value to government personnel in return for special consideration in the awarding of any contract pursuant to the bid to which this statement is attached.
- (2) I am fully aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding the making of the bid to which this statement is attached and have been personally and directly involved in the proceedings leading to the submission of the bid.
- (3) Neither the bidder nor anyone subject to the bidder's direction or control has been a party:
 - (A) To any collusion among bidders in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to bid at a fixed price or to refrain from bidding;
 - (B) To any collusion with any state official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or as to any other terms of the prospective contract; or
 - (C) In any discussions between bidders and any state official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the awarding of a contract.
- (4) I hereby guarantee that the specifications outlined in the bid shall be followed as specified and that deviations from the specifications shall occur only as part of a formal change process approved by the Board of Directors of the School District.
- (5) I hereby certify that the bid, unless specifically exempted by the USDA, is for agricultural commodities that have been produced in the U.S. or if the bid contains food products that at least 51% of food in the product was produced in the U.S. I understand that the District shall not accept any product that does not meet this requirement and is not liable for any loss I may incur as a result of such refusal to accept.

Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Notary Public

Date Adopted: August 20, 2013
Last Revised:

7.6—ACTIVITY ACCOUNT

The district shall maintain an account of activity funds. The funds for the account are those revenues derived from the sale of tickets to athletic contests or other school-sponsored activities; the sale of food other than that sold in the cafeteria; the sale of soft drinks, school supplies, and books; and fees charged by clubs and organizations.

Activity funds are considered “school funds” and as such may only be spent for school-related purposes.

The superintendent shall be the custodian of all activity funds and shall be responsible and accountable for the funds. The superintendent may appoint a co-custodian for each school in the district who shall also be responsible for the activity funds he/she maintains.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-701(g)
 A.C.A. § 6-20-417

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003
Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.7—CASH IN CLASSROOMS

No cash or checks are to be left in any classroom overnight. Staff who collect funds in the course of their employment should deposit the funds daily *and/or the next business day*.

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: July 17, 2012

7.8—PERSONAL PROPERTY

To avoid confusion and the potential for misunderstandings, District staff who bring personal property to school to use in the performance of their jobs should label the items with their names. Any such items should be removed from the school at the close of school each year. The District assumes no responsibility for damage to, or the loss of, personal property brought to District facilities by District staff.

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised:

7.9—PROPERTY INSURANCE

The superintendent shall be responsible, with approval of the Board, for maintaining adequate insurance coverage for all district properties. At a minimum, the District will purchase insurance coverage sufficient to meet the requirements by the Arkansas Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-114(d)
 Arkansas Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation
 Rules Governing Property Insurance Requirements

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: August 16, 2011

7.10—PUBLIC USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

It is the policy of the Board that district school buildings may be used by citizens of the District to conduct lawful meetings for social, civic, or recreational purposes provided such meetings do not interfere with the regular school work and proper protection is afforded the District against the potential costs of such use. The superintendent shall be responsible, with board approval, for establishing procedures governing such use of school buildings. The governing procedures shall be viewpoint neutral. Building principals shall be consulted to determine if there exists any conflict with planned school activities prior to other groups being allowed to use school facilities.

The District shall establish a fee schedule for the school facilities the District intends to make available for public use. The fee schedule shall be individualized for each school facility and shall be based on a formula that allows the District to reclaim the actual costs incurred by the District from the use of the facility.

School facilities that do not appear on the district's fee schedule shall not be available to the public.

The District shall also require **any** non-school related group using a district facility to provide proof of having purchased sufficient active and current general liability insurance to cover the damage to, or the cost to entirely replace the structure(s) and furnishing(s), if necessary due to the loss of, or damage to, district property.

Organizations using school facilities assume full and complete responsibility for the conduct of all persons, regardless of age, associated with their use of the facility while they are in or about the facility. Smoking or the use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form or the use of drugs or intoxicants is prohibited. Firearms *or weapons* of any kind are not allowed on school property unless the person carrying the firearm is permitted to do so by law as defined in A.C.A. § 5-73-120 or the individual has a valid conceal carry license and leaves the concealed handgun in the individual's locked vehicle.

Outside organizations who use outdoor spaces shall be responsible for providing any necessary portable toilets. Bathrooms in school buildings will only be available to organizations using outdoor spaces if the organization agrees to pay for the use of the necessary, segregatable and able to be made secure portion of the building in addition to the outside space. If the portion of the building containing restrooms cannot be segregated and/or made secure, both the outdoor and indoor space must be rented and insured against loss or accident.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-73-119
 A.C.A. § 5-73-120
 A.C.A. § 6-10-130
 A.C.A. § 6-21-101
 Arkansas Constitution Article 14, § 2

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: May 15, 2018

7.11—USE OF SCHOOL FUNDS FOR NON-SCHOOL-RELATED PURPOSES

School funds shall not be used for political, charitable, or humanitarian purposes.

No employee of the District shall use school time, school property, school personnel, or school equipment for the purpose of furthering the interests of any political party, the campaign of any political candidate, or the advocacy of any political issue or ballot issue whether partisan or non-partisan. School employees may participate as part of a community organization that is renting a school facility for a political purpose so long as the event is not during school time or the employee takes personal or vacation leave, with prior approval of his/her supervisor, for the time the employee is attending the event.

Any school employee found guilty or who pleads guilty, or nolo contendere to the use of district funds to support any ballot measure shall be immediately suspended, and recommended for termination by the superintendent.

The Board of Directors is not prohibited from expressing an opinion on a ballot measure through the passage of resolution or proclamation. School employees are allowed to verbally express their views on a ballot measure other than in an attempt to persuade a student to the employee's point of view.

District employees and members of the Board of Directors may incur incidental expenditure of district funds for travel costs when speaking at an event in which a ballot measure is discussed if the subject matter of the speaking engagement is within the scope of the person's official duties and responsibilities.

District funds may be used to disseminate public information at a public speaking engagement. The incidental use of district resources may be used to prepare an analysis of the public information if such information is within the scope of the person's official duties and responsibilities.

Legal References: Arkansas Constitution Article 14 § 2
 A.C.A. § 7-1-103
 A.C.A. § 7-1-111
 A.C.A. § 21-8-402

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: May 17, 2016

7.12—EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

The requirements of this policy shall govern reimbursement for expenses related to travel and/or attendance at conferences and professional development activities incurred by district employees and/or members of the Board of Directors on behalf of the district. Employees are only eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses for travel which has been approved in advance. Mileage, lodging, and meal expenses will not be reimbursed when incurred for the personal convenience of the employee and not required by the reason for the travel. Reimbursement for travel shall be for the lesser of the cost between travel by air or by car with some consideration allowed for length of time of the method of travel.

To the extent practicable, employees shall have the district pay initial conference and professional development registration fees and associated necessary materials. In the occasional circumstances where this is not practical, the District shall reimburse the employee for such fees if they were authorized in advance and are supported with proper receipts.

The district will not reimburse expenses of any non-school board member or non-employee who accompanies the school board member or employee during his/her school-related travel.

Reimbursable Expenses

Mileage that is driven for a district-sanctioned purpose in an employee's personal vehicle shall be reimbursed provided appropriate documentation is submitted establishing the date and time, place, and purpose of the travel. Mileage shall be reimbursed at the current rate authorized by the state/IRS and shall be based on the shortest, most reasonable, route available.

Meals may be reimbursed for travel which necessitates an overnight stay when submitted according to the dictates of this policy. ***Meals will be reimbursed as a per diem authorized by the current state/IRS rate.*** Reimbursement shall be prorated based on the percent of a day the employee is away on travel. For example, if an employee returns from his/her travel in the afternoon, he/she is only eligible for reimbursement for breakfast and lunch expenditures. Except as otherwise specified by this policy, meals are only reimbursable in conjunction with travel requiring an overnight stay.

Tips are not allowed if an employee is reimbursed using a "per diem" plan.

Meal expenses incurred by the superintendent or other administrators as necessary, in the performance of their duties when meeting with state officials or consultants may be reimbursed on a prorated, per person basis in line with the mandates of this policy. Such expenses shall only be reimbursed when the expenditure is likely to result in a tangible benefit to the district.

Travel necessitating overnight lodging shall be reimbursed to the extent that it is not lavish and is reasonable based on circumstances of the expenditure. Proper documentation establishing the date and time, place, and purpose of the travel must be submitted along with a receipt for the overnight accommodations. To the extent practicable, employees shall receive assistance from administrators or their designee in arranging travel plans to help keep expenses to a minimum.

7.12—EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT, continued, page 2

Expenses not covered

The district shall not reimburse the following items/categories of expenses.

- Alcoholic beverages;
- Entertainment expenses – including sports or sporting events; pay per view or game expenses at motels;
- Replacement due to loss or theft;
- Discretionary expenses for items such as clothing or gifts;
- Medical expenses incurred while on route to or from or at the destination of the reason for the travel;
- Optional or supplementary insurance obtained by the employee for the period covered during the travel.

Credit Cards

Only those employees specifically issued credit cards to be used in the performance of their jobs to purchase goods, services, or supplies on behalf of the district shall be allowed to use such cards. Employees who incur reimbursable expenses as defined in this policy are expected to pay for them initially by any means they choose and then submit their request for reimbursement. The district assumes no responsibility for the payment of any personal credit card charges incurred by a district employee.

Airport-Associated Expenses

Receipts for airport-associated expenses are required for reimbursement. All airline flights shall be by coach/economy class. Upon arrival at their destination, employees are expected to take the less expensive option between a taxi and an airport shuttle service to his/her hotel or meeting site. When circumstances dictate that a rental car is necessary and/or the most economical approach to the travel requirements, the least expensive car that will accomplish the job should be rented. The district shall not reimburse for any kind of rental car supplemental insurance.

Cross References: Policy 3.20—LICENSED PERSONNEL REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES
 Policy 8.14—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

Date Adopted: December 16, 2003

Last Revised: April 16, 2019; effective July 1, 2019

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

“Commodities” are all supplies, goods, material, computers, software, machinery and other equipment purchased on behalf of the District having a useful life of more than one (1) year and an acquisition cost of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more per unit.

“Fair market value” means the amount a reasonable buyer would be willing to pay for a particular piece of property based on an objective set of criteria, which may include, but are not limited to: any improvements or damage to the property; the demand for similar property; the selling price for the property by the producer of the property or re-sale outlets; and the value of the property as determined by an independent appraiser.

“Real property” is land and whatever is erected or affixed to land, such as structures or buildings.

“Surplus commodities” are those commodities that are no longer needed, obsolete, irreparable, or worn out.

“Surplus real property” is real property that is not presently needed or foreseen to be needed by the District, and that has been authorized for sale as surplus real property by vote of the School Board. Surplus real property may include unused or underutilized facilities.

“Trash” are those items that would otherwise belong to another category of goods or property defined in this policy, but which, due to the property’s age or an act of God, have less value than it would cost to repair the item. Examples could include, but are not limited to, fire damage, vehicle accidents, extreme age, and/or decline in value of the item.

“Unused or underutilized facility” means a school facility or other real property that:

- As a whole or in a significant portion, is not being used for a public educational, academic, extracurricular, or administrative purpose and the non-use or underutilization threatens the integrity or purpose of the school facility or other real property as a public education facility; and
- Is not subject to either a lease to a third party for fair market value or an executed offer to purchase by a third party for fair market value as of July 30, 2017.

General Policy

The district’s purchases of commodities shall be in accordance with Policy 7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT and, to the extent applicable, the procurement requirements of any granting source of funding used to purchase the commodity. The superintendent shall develop procedures governing the use, management, and dispersal of commodities. At a minimum, the procedures will cover the following topics:

- labeling all commodities;
- establishing adequate controls to account for their location, custody, and security;

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 2

- annually auditing the inventory of commodities and updating a listing of such commodities to reconcile the audit with the district’s inventory records. The audit will be documented and account for any transfer and/or disposal of a commodity.
- Disposing of surplus commodities and surplus real property, whether purchased in whole or in part with federal grant funds or with local funds.

The disposal of school property must be for the benefit of the school district and consistent with good business principles.

Disposal of Surplus Commodities

The Board of Directors recognizes that commodities sometimes become of no use to the District and thus meet this policy’s definition of surplus commodities.

The superintendent or designee(s) will determine the objective fair market value (FMV) of surplus commodities. The District will strive to dispose of surplus commodities at or near their FMV.

The superintendent may declare surplus any commodity with an FMV of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Surplus commodities with an FMV of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) will be periodically sold by the most efficient, cost effective means that is likely to result in sales at or near FMV.

The superintendent may submit a list of surplus commodities deemed to have a FMV of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or greater to the Board of Directors for authorization to sell such surplus commodities. Once the Board of Directors has authorized the sale of such surplus commodities, the superintendent or designee(s) may sell that surplus commodity as the need arises. Items with a FMV of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or greater will be sold by the most efficient, cost effective means that is likely to result in sales at or near FMV. If the superintendent chooses to dispose of the surplus items by bid, the superintendent or designee may set a minimum or reserve price on any item, and may reject all bids. The superintendent or designee is authorized to accept the high bid provided the high bid is at or near FMV without further board action unless the high bid comes under the jurisdiction of Arkansas ethics legislation, in which case the provisions of A.C.A. §§ 6-24-101–107 would apply.

If attempts at public sales fail to produce any interested buyers or bidders, such remaining unsold commodities may then, at the discretion of the superintendent, be disposed of as scrap or junk or be donated to appropriate charitable or education-related entities. Computer or technology equipment will be cleansed of data prior to disposal.

Disposal of Surplus Real Property

The Board of Directors recognizes that real property it owns sometimes becomes no longer of use to the District and thus meets this policy’s definition of surplus real property.

By February 1 of each year, the District shall submit a report to the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (Division) that identifies all unused or underutilized school facilities in the

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 3

District and the unused or underutilized school facilities, if any, that are designated in the district's facilities master plan to be re-used, renovated, or demolished as part of a specific committed project or planned new construction project.

If the Division classifies a district facility or district real property as being unused or underutilized, the District may appeal the Divisions determination to the Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (Commission).

The District shall make unused or underutilized public school facilities available for lease for no more than FMV to any open-enrollment public charter school (charter) located within the district's geographic boundaries that makes a request under the charter's statutory right of access unless the District makes an affirmative showing by a preponderance of the evidence to the Commission that:

1. The school facility, or the property to which the school facility is attached, will be needed by the District to accommodate future growth of the District; or
2. Use of the school facility or other real property by a charter would have a materially negative impact on the overall educational environment of an educational campus located within five hundred feet (500') of the school facility or other real property sought to be leased by the charter.

The terms of a lease executed between the District and a charter shall provide that the lease shall be cancelled and be of no effect if the charter:

- a. Fails to use the facility or other real property for direct student instruction or administrative purposes within two (2) years of the effective date of the lease;
- b. Closes, has its charter revoked, or has its charter application denied by the charter authorizer; or
- c. Initially uses the facility or other real property, but then leaves the facility or other real property unused for more than one hundred eighty (180) days.

If requested or agreed to by the charter, The District may sell the unused or underutilized facility or other real property to the charter for FMV.

If the District decides to sell, lease, or otherwise transfer ownership of a district facility, a charter located within the district's geographic boundaries shall have a right of first refusal to purchase or lease the facility for FMV. The charter's right of first refusal shall continue for two (2) years after the date the District last used the school facility or other real property as an academic facility.

If the District decides to sell or lease a district facility or other real property that has been identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized school facility to a third party that is not a charter, then the District may not sell or lease the facility until the later of:

- Two (2) years after the date the facility or other real property is identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized public school facility, so long as no charter has claimed a right of access or a right of first refusal; or
- Three (3) years from the date the district facility or other real property has been identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized public school facility if the District designated the facility

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 4

- or other real property to be reused, renovated, or demolished as part of a specific committed project or planned new construction project in the district's facilities master plan.

The District may petition the Division for a waiver of the time restrictions for the sale or lease of a district's unused or underutilized facility. The petition shall include a statement that the District believes that no charter would be interested in leasing or purchasing the unused or underutilized school facility. If the District receives a waiver, the District may immediately sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the unused or underutilized facility. The District may appeal the denial by the Division of a waiver to the Commission.

The superintendent may submit a request to the Board of Directors for authorization to sell surplus real property. Once the Board of Directors has authorized the sale of such surplus real property, the superintendent or designated individual(s) may sell that surplus real property as the need arises and this policy allows. The superintendent or designee(s) shall be responsible for getting a determination of the objective FMV of surplus real property. The District will strive to dispose of surplus items at or near their FMV. The real property may be listed for sale with a real estate broker, and the superintendent or designated individual may contract on behalf of the District to pay the usual and customary sales commission for such transactions, upon sale of the property. If the superintendent chooses to dispose of the surplus items by bid, the superintendent or designee(s) may set a minimum or reserve price on any item, and may reject all bids. The superintendent or designee is authorized to accept the high bid provided the high bid is at or near FMV without further board action unless the high bid comes under the jurisdiction of Arkansas ethics legislation, in which case the provisions of A.C.A. §§ 6-24-101–107 would apply.

If attempts at public sales fail to produce any interested buyers or bidders, such remaining unsold real property may then, if agreed to by the superintendent and Board of Directors, be donated to appropriate education related entities, not-for-profit organizations, the county, city, or incorporated town in accordance with the provisions of state law.

Items obtained with federal funds shall be handled in accordance with applicable federal regulations, if any.

The District may not make a part of the disposal of district real property a covenant that prohibits the sale or lease of former district facilities or other real property to a charter that is located within the district's geographic boundaries.

Disposal of Surplus Real Property After Consolidation

Except as otherwise prohibited by this policy, real property of a consolidated school district that is no longer being used for educational purposes and has not been sold, preserved, leased, or donated two (2) years after the effective date of consolidation shall be made available for use by a publicly supported institution of higher education, a technical institute, a community college, a not-for-profit organization, a county, a city, or incorporated town by the Board of Directors for the following purposes:

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY,
continued, page 5

- Having the real property preserved, improved, upgraded, rehabilitated, or enlarged by the donee;
- Holding of classes by statutorily authorized education related entities; or
- Providing community programs and beneficial educational services, social enrichment programs, or after-school programs.

Trash

Trash, as defined in this policy, may be disposed of in the most cost efficient or effective method available to the district.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-111
 A.C.A. § 6-13-620
 A.C.A. § 6-21-108
 A.C.A. § 6-21-110
 A.C.A. § 6-21-803
 A.C.A. § 6-21-806
 A.C.A. § 6-21-815
 A.C.A. § 6-21-816
 A.C.A. § 6-24-101–107
 2 C.F.R. § 200.311
 2 C.F.R. § 200.313

Date Adopted: May 18, 2010

Last Revised: July 18, 2017

7.14—USE OF DISTRICT CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS

Board members, staff, and students shall not be given cell phones or computers for any purpose other than their specific use associated with school business. School employees who use a school-issued cell phone and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by district policy, shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination. School employees may be issued district cell phones if their position requires the employee be available at all times for work-related emergencies or the employee be available to speak with others on school-related business when the employee is away from the office. Employees issued cell phones for such purposes may use the phone for personal use on an “as needed” basis.

Students who use school-issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by Policy 4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES, shall be subject to discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Except when authorized in the SCHOOL BUS DRIVER’S USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES policies of 3.51 and 8.24, all employees and students are forbidden from using school-issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including:

- Suspension for students; and
- Termination for employees.

Except when authorized in the SCHOOL BUS DRIVER’S USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES policies of 3.51 and 8.24, no employee or student shall use any device for the purposes of browsing the Internet; composing or reading e-mails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle which is in motion and on school property. Violations may result in disciplinary action up to and including:

- Suspension for students; and
- Termination for employees.

Cross References: Policy 3.34—LICENSED PERSONNEL CELL PHONE USE
Policy 3.51—SCHOOL BUS DRIVER’S USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Policy 4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Policy 8.24—SCHOOL BUS DRIVER’S USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Policy 8.25— CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL CELL PHONE USE

Legal References: IRC § 132(d)

7.14—USE OF DISTRICT CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS, continued, page 2

IRC § 274(d)
IRC § 280F(d)(4)
IRS Publication 15 B
A.C.A. § 6-19-120
A.C.A. § 27-51-1504
A.C.A. § 27-51-1609

Date Adopted: December 11, 2007

Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.17.1—EXCESS FOOD

Definition

“Excess food” means any food that remains after the serving of breakfast and lunch to students during the school day; however, “excess food” does not include any food that has expired, been opened, or been consumed.

Excess food shall be handled in accordance with U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and Arkansas Department of Health rules.

Excess Food Sold a la carte

Excess food may be sold a la carte no later than the day immediately following the day the excess food was served in the District’s school meal service.

Donation of Excess Food

When it is not feasible for the district to reuse excess food, excess food may be donated to a non-profit organization, such as a community food bank, homeless shelter, or other non-profit charitable organization.

The district’s child nutrition director (director), after consultation with and approval by the superintendent, may identify a nonprofit “partner” that will accept the district’s excess food. Before the district may donate food to the non-profit partner, the director shall obtain a copy of the non-profit partner’s 501(c)(3) documentation and contact information for use when excess food is available for donation.

Whenever excess food is donated, the director shall document all of the following on the form provided by the Child Nutrition Unit:

1. What, how much, and when excess food donations are made;
2. Who picks up the excess food for the non-profit partner, including a signature along with the date and time of the pick up; and
3. Signature of the child nutrition staff when excess food is donated to the non-profit partner.

Following the donation of excess food, the director shall:

- a. Monitor excess food donations;
- b. Report excess food cost to administration; and
- c. Revise planned production and menus to minimize excess food.

The non-profit partner shall agree to provide the district’s students the first opportunity to receive the donated excess food. The superintendent, director, and non-profit partner shall work together to adopt procedures for the providing of excess food to the district’s students.

7.17.1—EXCESS FOOD, continued, page 2

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-716
 Commissioner’s Memo CNU-16-033
 7 C.F.R. § 210.10
 7 C.F.R. § 210.11

Date Adopted: July 16, 2019

Last Revised:

7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY

The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring the district has the necessary components in place to meet the district's needs and the state's requirements for information technology (IT) security. To aid the superintendent in creating, monitoring, and updating the district's IT security system, the superintendent shall appoint an information security officer (ISO). The ISO shall be responsible for:

- a) Overseeing the district-wide IT security system;
- b) Development of district IT policies and procedures;
- c) Development and leading of employee training on the IT security requirements;
- d) Ensuring compliance with the adherence to the Division of Elementary and Secondary (DESE) IT security standards.

The ISO shall work with other IT staff, the superintendent, and district management appointed by the superintendent to develop a district IT security system necessary to meet the requirements of this policy and DESE's standards. The IT security system shall contain the necessary components designed to accomplish the following:

1. The district IT security system shall contain mechanisms, policies, procedures, and technologies necessary to prevent disclosure, modification, or denial of sensitive information.

For the purposes of the IT security system, "sensitive data" is any and all student and employee data that is either personally identifiable information (PII) or any non-PII information that, if assembled together, would allow a reasonable person to identify an individual. Sensitive data includes, but is not limited to:

- Student personally identifiable information, except as allowed by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); and
- Employee personally identifiable information, except as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 6-11-129.

All district employees having access to sensitive information shall receive annual IT security training, which shall emphasize the employee's personal responsibility for protecting student and employee information.

2. Physical access to computer facilities, data rooms, systems, networks and data will be limited to those authorized personnel who require access to perform assigned duties.

User workstations shall not be left unattended when logged into sensitive systems or data that includes student or employee information. Workstation settings shall be set for automatic log off and require a password for the system to restore from screensavers.

All equipment that contains sensitive information shall be secured to deter theft. No sensitive data shall be retained on laptops and/or remote devices (home computer, thumb drives, cell phones, CDs, etc.) unless it is encrypted in accordance with the Arkansas State Security Office's Best Practices.

7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY, continued, page 2

Server rooms and telecommunication rooms/closets shall be protected by appropriate access control. The rooms shall be segregated from general school or district office areas to restrict access. Server room access control shall be enforced using *keys* to allow unescorted access only to IT or management staff who require the access to perform their job functions.

3. Network perimeter controls will be implemented to regulate traffic moving between trusted internal (district) resources and external, untrusted (Internet) entities. All network transmission of sensitive data shall enforce encryption where technologically feasible.

The district shall maintain a network configuration management program that includes at a minimum:

- a) A network diagram identifying all connections, addresses, and purpose of each connection including management approval of all high-risk Internet facing ports such as mail (SMTP/25), file transport protocol (FTP/20-21), etc.
- b) All public facing (Internet) servers and workstations segmented on a demilitarized zone (DMZ) that keeps them separate from the internal district network. Segmentation shall be through *firewall*.

All wireless access shall require authentication. The DISTRICT wireless networks will deploy network authentication and encryption in compliance with the Arkansas State Security Office's Best Practices. Scans for rogue wireless devices will be conducted at a minimum monthly. Any rogue wireless device shall be disabled.

Remote access with connectivity to the district internal network shall be achieved using encryption. Appropriate WARNING BANNERS shall be implemented for all access points to the district internal network.

4. System and application access will be granted based upon the least amount of access to data and programs required by the user in accordance with a business need-to-have requirement.

The district shall enforce strong password management for:

- Employees and contractors as specified in Arkansas State Security Office Password Management Standard.
- Students as specified in Arkansas State Security Office K-12 Student Password Management Best Practice.

User access shall be limited to only those specific access requirements necessary for an employee to perform his/her job functions. Where possible, segregation of duties shall be utilized to control authorization access.

User access shall be granted and terminated upon timely receipt of a documented access request/termination. All access requests shall require approval by the ISO or designee. Ongoing access shall be reviewed for all users at a minimum annually.

7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY, continued, page 3

Audit and log files shall be generated and maintained for at least ninety (90) days for all critical security-relevant events, including but not limited to:

- Invalid logon attempts;
- Changes to the security policy/procedures; and
- Failed attempts to access objects by unauthorized users.

IT administrator privileges for operating system(s), database(s), and applications shall be limited to the minimum number of staff required to perform these sensitive duties.

5. Application development and maintenance for in-house developed student or financial applications will adhere to industry processes for segregating programs and deploying software only after appropriate testing and management approvals.

Any custom-built student or financial applications or supporting applications that interface, integrate with, or provide queries and reporting to/from student or financial systems shall be developed using a system development life cycle approach that incorporates at a minimum:

- a) Planning, requirements, and design;
- b) User acceptance testing (UAT);
- c) Code reviews; and
- d) Controlled migration to production.

Any changes to core or supporting applications that provide student or financial processing or reporting shall be implemented in a controlled manner that includes at a minimum:

- Documentation of any change, including changes to both infrastructure and application;
- Management approval of all changes; and
- Controlled migration to production, including testing as appropriate.

6. Monitoring and responding to IT-related incidents will be designed to provide early notification of events and rapid response and recovery from internal or external network or system attacks.

The district shall develop and maintain an incident response plan to be used in the event of system compromise that shall include:

- a) Emergency contacts;
- b) Incident containment procedures; and
- c) Incident response and escalation procedures.

7. To ensure continuous critical IT services, the district ISO will develop a business continuity/disaster recovery plan appropriate for the size and complexity of the district IT operations.

The district-wide business continuity plan shall include at a minimum:

- Procedures for performing routine backups at least weekly and the storage of backup media at a secured location other than the server room or adjacent facilities. Backup media shall be

7.16—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY, continued, page 4

stored off-site a reasonably safe distance from the primary server room and retained in a fire resistant receptacle.

- A secondary backup processing location, such as another school or district building, shall be identified.
 - A documented calling tree with emergency actions to include:
 - Recovery of backup data;
 - Restoration of processing at the secondary location; and
 - Generation of student and employee listings to ensure an accurate head count.
8. Server and workstation protection software will be deployed to identify and eradicate malicious software attacks such as viruses, spyware, and malware.

Spyware and virus protection software shall be installed, distributed, and maintained on all production platforms, including:

- a) File/print servers;
- b) Workstations;
- c) E-mail servers;
- d) Web servers; and
- e) Application and database servers.

Malicious software protection shall include:

- Weekly update downloads;
- Weekly scanning;
- The malicious software protection to be in active state (realtime) on all operating servers/workstations.

All security-relevant software patches shall be applied within thirty (30) days and critical patches shall be applied as soon as possible.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo RT-15-010
A.C.A. § 4-110-101 et seq.
A.C.A. § 10-4-429

Date Adopted: July 21, 2009
Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.17—FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT

The district participates in *Community Eligibility Provision, a program through the U. S. Department of Agriculture*, and provides meals to all students at no charge. The district does not provide credit for staff to charge for meals or for staff and students to charge for a la carte or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. A la carte or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the district that may be charged for the items. Staff and parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for a la carte or other food and beverage items through any of the following methods:

- Submitting cash or check payment to *their campus or food service office*;
- Depositing funds through the district's online service;

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-003
 Commissioner's Memo CNU-17-024
 A.C.A. § 6-18-715

Date Adopted: May 16, 2017
Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.17.1—EXCESS FOOD

Definition

“Excess food” means any food that remains after the serving of breakfast and lunch to students during the school day; however, “excess food” does not include any food that has expired, been opened, or been consumed.

Excess food shall be handled in accordance with U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and Arkansas Department of Health rules.

Excess Food Sold a la carte

Excess food may be sold a la carte no later than the day immediately following the day the excess food was served in the District’s school meal service.

Donation of Excess Food

When it is not feasible for the district to reuse excess food, excess food may be donated to a non-profit organization, such as a community food bank, homeless shelter, or other non-profit charitable organization.

The district’s child nutrition director (director), after consultation with and approval by the superintendent, may identify a nonprofit “partner” that will accept the district’s excess food. Before the district may donate food to the non-profit partner, the director shall obtain a copy of the non-profit partner’s 501(c)(3) documentation and contact information for use when excess food is available for donation.

Whenever excess food is donated, the director shall document all of the following on the form provided by the Child Nutrition Unit:

1. What, how much, and when excess food donations are made;
2. Who picks up the excess food for the non-profit partner, including a signature along with the date and time of the pick up; and
3. Signature of the child nutrition staff when excess food is donated to the non-profit partner.

Following the donation of excess food, the director shall:

- a. Monitor excess food donations;
- b. Report excess food cost to administration; and
- c. Revise planned production and menus to minimize excess food.

The non-profit partner shall agree to provide the district’s students the first opportunity to receive the donated excess food. The superintendent, director, and non-profit partner shall work together to adopt procedures for the providing of excess food to the district’s students.

7.17.1—EXCESS FOOD, continued, page 2

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-716
 Commissioner’s Memo CNU-16-033
 7 C.F.R. § 210.10
 7 C.F.R. § 210.11

Date Adopted: July 16, 2019

Last Revised:

7.17.2—NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS

In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations, the Texarkana School District shall not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any individual as part of any of the District's food service programs on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability. The District shall not allow reprisal or retaliation against any individual for prior civil rights activity.

Food service program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain food service program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the District, Child Nutrition Unit of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Arkansas Department of Education, or the USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a food service program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should:

- Complete a USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (Form AD-3027), which can be obtained:
 - Online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>;
 - Calling any USDA office at (866) 632-9992; or
- Writing a letter addressed to USDA that:
 - a. Contains:
 - 1. The complainant's name, address, and telephone number; and
 - 2. A written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation; and
 - b. Submitted to USDA by:
 - 1. Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
 - 2. Fax at either:
 - (833) 256-1665; or
 - (202) 690-7442; or
 - 3. Email:
program.intake@usda.gov

The Texarkana School District is an equal opportunity provider.

Cross References: 4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS
 4.51—FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT
 4.58—FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA
 7.17 —FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT
 7.17.1 —EXCESS FOOD

7.17.2—NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS, page 2

Legal References: Commissioner’s Memo CNU-22-028
 7 C.F.R. Parts 15, 15a, and 15b
 7 C.F.R. § 210.23
 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.
 29 U.S.C. 794 et seq.
 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.
 42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.
 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

Date Adopted: July 19, 2022

Last Revised:

7.18 – DISPOSAL OF NON-NEGOTIATED CHECKS OR UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

State law specifies how the District is to dispose of retained funds in the form of issued but non-negotiated checks that have not been presented for payment within one (1) calendar year. The District shall dispose of these retained funds in accordance with the law and remit the amount of all non-negotiated checks to the Unclaimed Property Division of the Arkansas Auditor's Office.

The District shall make a good faith effort to return physical items that have been left on district property to their rightful owners. When contact information is known for the owner of an item of a non-perishable nature left at the District, the District shall use the information to attempt to contact the owner to inform him/her of the location of the item. Owners of such items shall be given at least three (3) weeks to pick up the item he/she left at the District. If the owner fails to pick up the item within the time allotted, the District may dispose of the item in a manner of its choosing.

The District is under no obligation to retain an abandoned, perishable item left on district property.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 18-28-201
 A.C.A. § 18-28-202(a)(11), (c), (d)
 A.C.A. § 18-28-204
 A.C.A. § 18-28-206
 A.C.A. § 18-28-207
 A.C.A. § 18-28-208(a)
 A.C.A. § 18-28-210(b)(c)
 A.C.A. § 18-28-217
 A.C.A. § 18-28-221(a)
 A.C.A. § 18-28-224

Date Adopted: May 18, 2010
Last Revised: April 21, 2020

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

“Commodities” are all supplies, goods, material, computers, software, machinery and other equipment purchased on behalf of the District having a useful life of more than one (1) year and an acquisition cost of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more per unit.

“Fair market value” means the amount a reasonable buyer would be willing to pay for a particular piece of property based on an objective set of criteria, which may include, but are not limited to: any improvements or damage to the property; the demand for similar property; the selling price for the property by the producer of the property or re-sale outlets; and the value of the property as determined by an independent appraiser.

“Real property” is land and whatever is erected or affixed to land, such as structures or buildings.

“Surplus commodities” are those commodities that are no longer needed, obsolete, irreparable, or worn out.

“Surplus real property” is real property that is not presently needed or foreseen to be needed by the District, and that has been authorized for sale as surplus real property by vote of the School Board. Surplus real property may include unused or underutilized facilities.

“Trash” are those items that would otherwise belong to another category of goods or property defined in this policy, but which, due to the property’s age or an act of God, have less value than it would cost to repair the item. Examples could include, but are not limited to, fire damage, vehicle accidents, extreme age, and/or decline in value of the item.

“Unused or underutilized facility” means a school facility or other real property that:

- As a whole or in a significant portion, is not being used for a public educational, academic, extracurricular, or administrative purpose and the non-use or underutilization threatens the integrity or purpose of the school facility or other real property as a public education facility; and
- Is not subject to either a lease to a third party for fair market value or an executed offer to purchase by a third party for fair market value as of July 30, 2017.

General Policy

The district’s purchases of commodities shall be in accordance with Policy 7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT and, to the extent applicable, the procurement requirements of any granting source of funding used to purchase the commodity. The superintendent shall develop procedures governing the use, management, and dispersal of commodities. At a minimum, the procedures will cover the following topics:

- labeling all commodities;
- establishing adequate controls to account for their location, custody, and security;

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 2

- annually auditing the inventory of commodities and updating a listing of such commodities to reconcile the audit with the district’s inventory records. The audit will be documented and account for any transfer and/or disposal of a commodity.
- Disposing of surplus commodities and surplus real property, whether purchased in whole or in part with federal grant funds or with local funds.

The disposal of school property must be for the benefit of the school district and consistent with good business principles.

Disposal of Surplus Commodities

The Board of Directors recognizes that commodities sometimes become of no use to the District and thus meet this policy’s definition of surplus commodities.

The superintendent or designee(s) will determine the objective fair market value (FMV) of surplus commodities. The District will strive to dispose of surplus commodities at or near their FMV.

The superintendent may declare surplus any commodity with an FMV of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Surplus commodities with an FMV of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) will be periodically sold by the most efficient, cost effective means that is likely to result in sales at or near FMV.

The superintendent may submit a list of surplus commodities deemed to have a FMV of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or greater to the Board of Directors for authorization to sell such surplus commodities. Once the Board of Directors has authorized the sale of such surplus commodities, the superintendent or designee(s) may sell that surplus commodity as the need arises. Items with a FMV of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or greater will be sold by the most efficient, cost effective means that is likely to result in sales at or near FMV. If the superintendent chooses to dispose of the surplus items by bid, the superintendent or designee may set a minimum or reserve price on any item, and may reject all bids. The superintendent or designee is authorized to accept the high bid provided the high bid is at or near FMV without further board action unless the high bid comes under the jurisdiction of Arkansas ethics legislation, in which case the provisions of A.C.A. §§ 6-24-101–107 would apply.

If attempts at public sales fail to produce any interested buyers or bidders, such remaining unsold commodities may then, at the discretion of the superintendent, be disposed of as scrap or junk or be donated to appropriate charitable or education-related entities. Computer or technology equipment will be cleansed of data prior to disposal.

Disposal of Surplus Real Property

The Board of Directors recognizes that real property it owns sometimes becomes no longer of use to the District and thus meets this policy’s definition of surplus real property.

By February 1 of each year, the District shall submit a report to the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (Division) that identifies all unused or underutilized school facilities in the

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 3

District and the unused or underutilized school facilities, if any, that are designated in the district's facilities master plan to be re-used, renovated, or demolished as part of a specific committed project or planned new construction project.

If the Division classifies a district facility or district real property as being unused or underutilized, the District may appeal the Divisions determination to the Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation (Commission).

The District shall make unused or underutilized public school facilities available for lease for no more than FMV to any open-enrollment public charter school (charter) located within the district's geographic boundaries that makes a request under the charter's statutory right of access unless the District makes an affirmative showing by a preponderance of the evidence to the Commission that:

1. The school facility, or the property to which the school facility is attached, will be needed by the District to accommodate future growth of the District; or
2. Use of the school facility or other real property by a charter would have a materially negative impact on the overall educational environment of an educational campus located within five hundred feet (500') of the school facility or other real property sought to be leased by the charter.

The terms of a lease executed between the District and a charter shall provide that the lease shall be cancelled and be of no effect if the charter:

- a. Fails to use the facility or other real property for direct student instruction or administrative purposes within two (2) years of the effective date of the lease;
- b. Closes, has its charter revoked, or has its charter application denied by the charter authorizer; or
- c. Initially uses the facility or other real property, but then leaves the facility or other real property unused for more than one hundred eighty (180) days.

If requested or agreed to by the charter, The District may sell the unused or underutilized facility or other real property to the charter for FMV.

If the District decides to sell, lease, or otherwise transfer ownership of a district facility, a charter located within the district's geographic boundaries shall have a right of first refusal to purchase or lease the facility for FMV. The charter's right of first refusal shall continue for two (2) years after the date the District last used the school facility or other real property as an academic facility.

If the District decides to sell or lease a district facility or other real property that has been identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized school facility to a third party that is not a charter, then the District may not sell or lease the facility until the later of:

- Two (2) years after the date the facility or other real property is identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized public school facility, so long as no charter has claimed a right of access or a right of first refusal; or
- Three (3) years from the date the district facility or other real property has been identified by the Division as an unused or underutilized public school facility if the District designated the facility

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY, continued, page 4

- or other real property to be reused, renovated, or demolished as part of a specific committed project or planned new construction project in the district's facilities master plan.

The District may petition the Division for a waiver of the time restrictions for the sale or lease of a district's unused or underutilized facility. The petition shall include a statement that the District believes that no charter would be interested in leasing or purchasing the unused or underutilized school facility. If the District receives a waiver, the District may immediately sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the unused or underutilized facility. The District may appeal the denial by the Division of a waiver to the Commission.

The superintendent may submit a request to the Board of Directors for authorization to sell surplus real property. Once the Board of Directors has authorized the sale of such surplus real property, the superintendent or designated individual(s) may sell that surplus real property as the need arises and this policy allows. The superintendent or designee(s) shall be responsible for getting a determination of the objective FMV of surplus real property. The District will strive to dispose of surplus items at or near their FMV. The real property may be listed for sale with a real estate broker, and the superintendent or designated individual may contract on behalf of the District to pay the usual and customary sales commission for such transactions, upon sale of the property. If the superintendent chooses to dispose of the surplus items by bid, the superintendent or designee(s) may set a minimum or reserve price on any item, and may reject all bids. The superintendent or designee is authorized to accept the high bid provided the high bid is at or near FMV without further board action unless the high bid comes under the jurisdiction of Arkansas ethics legislation, in which case the provisions of A.C.A. §§ 6-24-101–107 would apply.

If attempts at public sales fail to produce any interested buyers or bidders, such remaining unsold real property may then, if agreed to by the superintendent and Board of Directors, be donated to appropriate education related entities, not-for-profit organizations, the county, city, or incorporated town in accordance with the provisions of state law.

Items obtained with federal funds shall be handled in accordance with applicable federal regulations, if any.

The District may not make a part of the disposal of district real property a covenant that prohibits the sale or lease of former district facilities or other real property to a charter that is located within the district's geographic boundaries.

Disposal of Surplus Real Property After Consolidation

Except as otherwise prohibited by this policy, real property of a consolidated school district that is no longer being used for educational purposes and has not been sold, preserved, leased, or donated two (2) years after the effective date of consolidation shall be made available for use by a publicly supported institution of higher education, a technical institute, a community college, a not-for-profit organization, a county, a city, or incorporated town by the Board of Directors for the following purposes:

7.13—MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL OF DISTRICT PROPERTY,
continued, page 5

- Having the real property preserved, improved, upgraded, rehabilitated, or enlarged by the donee;
- Holding of classes by statutorily authorized education related entities; or
- Providing community programs and beneficial educational services, social enrichment programs, or after-school programs.

Trash

Trash, as defined in this policy, may be disposed of in the most cost efficient or effective method available to the district.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-111
 A.C.A. § 6-13-620
 A.C.A. § 6-21-108
 A.C.A. § 6-21-110
 A.C.A. § 6-21-803
 A.C.A. § 6-21-806
 A.C.A. § 6-21-815
 A.C.A. § 6-21-816
 A.C.A. § 6-24-101–107
 2 C.F.R. § 200.311
 2 C.F.R. § 200.313

Date Adopted: May 18, 2010

Last Revised: July 18, 2017

7.19.1—THERAPY ANIMALS

Definitions

“Therapy animal” means an animal that is a graduate of a program through an assistance dog organization that is a member of Therapy Dogs International or a similar non-profit organization that attempts to select the highest standard of training for animals for the purpose of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship to school district students. Therapy animals are the personal property of a school district employee or volunteer and are not owned by the school district. Therapy animals do not meet the definition of “service animals” under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

“Therapy animal handler” means an employee of the school district or volunteer who has received training and passed an evaluation from Therapy Dogs International or a similar non-profit organization for handling a specific therapy animal and who will be handling and overseeing care of that specific therapy animal for the entire time the animal is on a district campus.

The District recognizes that specially trained therapy animals can provide educational benefits for district students. District staff who wish to have therapy animals made available to students shall submit a plan to the building principal. The proposal shall address all of the following areas:

1. The location for the therapy animal to be kept when the therapy animal is on campus, which must meet all of the following conditions:
 - a. Direct access to the outdoors to permit the therapy animal to enter and exit the building without using the building’s interior hallways;
 - b. Free of an intake for the building ventilation system or an independent ventilation system;
 - c. Non-porous surfaces, including carpet-free floors, for easy hair removal, cleaning, and sanitation;
2. The proposed therapy animal or the therapy animal service provider:
 - a. The certification the proposed therapy animal has received, including the training required to receive the certification;
 - b. The credentials of the certification providers ;
 - c. Copy(ies) of the temperance evaluation (s) of the proposed therapy animal;
 - d. The credentials of the temperance evaluator(s);
 - e. Proof demonstrating the therapy animal is current on all vaccinations;
3. Students:
 - a. The set(s) of students whom the therapy animal is intended to serve;
 - b. Proposed training to be provided to students on the appropriate behavior and treatment of the therapy animal;
 - c. Consequences for inappropriate treatment of the therapy animal;
 - d. The anticipated goals for and intended uses of the therapy animal;
4. The therapy animal’s handler must provide:
 - a. The individual(s) who will be responsible for handling the therapy animal;
 - b. Training obtained by the proposed handler(s);
 - c. The credentials of the providers of the handler’s training;
 - d. Proposed schedule for the handler(s) to provide necessary care for the therapy animal, including exercise, feeding, watering, bodily functions, and any cleanup resulting from caring for the animal; and

7.19.1—THERAPY ANIMALS, continued, page 2

- e. Proof of an insurance policy that provides liability coverage for the therapy animal while on district property.

The building principal may reject the proposal if:

- The proposal does not meet the requirements of this policy;
- The principal does not perceive any educational benefit to be achieved based on the information contained in the proposal;
- The building principal believes that the time required to meet the needs of the therapy animal is inconsistent with the assigned duties of the school employee(s) proposed as the therapy animal's handler(s); or
- The proposal is otherwise inconsistent with the needs of the school or school building.

The building principal shall submit any proposal the principal desires to be approved to the superintendent, or designee, for final review and approval. If the superintendent, or designee, approves the proposal, the superintendent, or designee, shall submit written approval for an individual documented therapy animal or for a therapy animal service before the individual animal or an animal provided by the therapy animal service may be present on a district campus.

Any approved therapy animal program may have its approval suspended or curtailed, at any time, for any reason. District employees shall not receive any additional pay, stipend, or compensation for providing the therapy animal or for being the handler and/or the owner of the therapy animal. The supervision and care of the approved therapy animal is solely the responsibility of the therapy animal handler(s) when the therapy animal is on a district campus. The therapy animal handler will assume full responsibility and liability for any damage to school district property or injury to district staff, students, or others while the therapy animal is on a district campus. The therapy animal handler must maintain an insurance policy that provides liability coverage for the therapy animal while on district property.

Approved therapy animals must be clean, well groomed, in good health, house broken, and be current on all vaccinations and immunizations. An approved therapy animal shall have appropriate identification identifying it as a therapy animal at all times while on district property. The therapy animal shall be under the control of the therapy animal's handler(s) at all times, which requires the therapy animal be attached to the therapy animal's handler by means of a leash or harness whenever the therapy animal is on district property and outside of its designated room.

The building principal is to receive a verbal report within fifteen (15) minutes of any act of aggression or defensive behavior by the therapy animal towards a human, which includes vocalizations such as growling, or any aggressive or inappropriate behavior by a student directed toward a therapy animal. A full written incident report shall be submitted to both the building principal and the superintendent, or designee, before the close of the following school day. An act of aggression or defensive behavior by a therapy animal shall result in:

- An immediate end of the current student's session with the therapy animal;
- The prohibition of any further interactions between the therapy animal and students for the remainder of the school day; and

7.19.1—THERAPY ANIMALS, continued, page 3

- Exclusion of the therapy animal from campus until the superintendent, or designee, completes an investigation and authorizes the therapy animal's return to campus.

At no time will a therapy animal be taken through a district building to meet with a student. Students who have time scheduled with a therapy animal shall go to the room where the therapy animal is located. A student shall not schedule or attend a session with the therapy animal until the student's parents, or the student if over eighteen (18) years of age, provides written authorization for the student to use the services of a therapy animal.

If a student demonstrates symptoms of an allergic reaction during or after a session with the therapy animal, the student's parents shall receive written notification of the possibility of their student's allergy and that the student shall not have any future sessions with the therapy animal. If other students in the same classroom demonstrate symptoms of an allergic reaction following a student's return to class after a session with the therapy animal, no further sessions with the therapy animal shall be scheduled for students in that classroom and the parents of a student who demonstrated symptoms of an allergic reaction shall receive written notification of their student's possible allergy.

This policy is not intended to, and does not, allow students, parents, or staff to bring emotional support animals onto any district campus. Individuals who bring an animal onto a district campus that does not meet the definition of a service animal under Policy 7.19—SERVICE ANIMALS or that has not been approved under this policy shall be asked to leave campus. Repeated violations may result in disciplinary or legal action.

Cross Reference: Policy 7.19—SERVICE ANIMALS

Date Adopted: May 15, 2018

Last Revised:

7.20 – ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

District funds shall only be disbursed by the district treasurer upon the receipt of checks or warrants signed by the district Board of Directors' disbursing officer and the superintendent or through the electronic transfer of funds. Any electronic transfer of funds must be initiated by the District and authorized in writing by both the disbursing officer of the school district Board of Directors and the superintendent.

For the purposes of this policy, "initiated by the District" means the District controls both the timing and the amount of the funds transfer.

The district treasurer shall maintain evidence of authority for the disbursement in the form of invoices, payrolls that conform with written contracts on file in his/her office, or other appropriate documentation indicating an authority to disburse district funds.

"Other appropriate documentation" includes one-time, signed authorization for recurring transactions. The Board of Directors' disbursing officer must pre-authorize the electronic transfer of funds for non-recurring transactions which can be accomplished by a signed authorization or an e-mail authorizing such a disbursement of funds.

Cross Reference: 1.16 —DUTIES OF BOARD DISBURSING OFFICER

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-701(e)
 Commissioner's Memo Com-12-036

Date Adopted: July 17, 2012
Last Revised:

7.21—NAMING SCHOOL FACILITIES

Except as otherwise permitted in this policy or Arkansas law, the District shall not name any building, structure, or facility, paid for in whole or in part with district funds, for an individual living at the time of its completion who, in the ten (10) years preceding its construction, was elected, or held, a federal, state, county, or municipal office and received a salary for his/her service.

Exceptions to the preceding paragraph may be made when a building, structure, or facility is constructed through the use of at least 50% private funds or, the name refers to:

1. an individual(s) living at the time of its completion and who has historical significance;
2. an individual who is or has been a prisoner of war; or
3. a living individual who is at least 75 years of age and is retired.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 25-1-121

Date Adopted: August 20, 2013

Last Revised: May 20, 2014

7.22—PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS

The superintendent, or designee, may negotiate for the private sponsorship of an event to take place during the time allotted for a half-time break of any of the district's interscholastic activities. The amount of time for a half-time break shall not be extended for the event.

The school district shall not discriminate against potential sponsors based on political affiliation, religion, or perceived message. The superintendent, or designee, may decline sponsorship for any of the following reasons:

- The sponsored event would conflict with school or school group presentations;
- The proposed event would be logistically impracticable due to the estimated time, required materials for the event, or for other reasons associated with the implementation of the event;
- The proposed event would make continuation of the interscholastic activity impracticable due to residual mess/trash resulting from the activity; or
- The proposed event would present an unacceptable safety risk to students or viewing audience.

The superintendent's, or designee's, decision to accept or decline the proposed sponsored event shall be final.

Any potential sponsor shall be required to demonstrate proof of an in force, minimum face value one million dollar (\$1,000,000) general liability insurance policy that would cover the event. The sponsor must also agree to indemnify the school against any damages to school property, school employees, students, or bystanders that arise as a result of the sponsored event as well as from any law suits that are filed in response to such damages.

There shall be no live or recorded speech, music, or other media provided by the sponsor used during the sponsored event. A member of the school's administration shall announce the name of the sponsor of the event and shall be present to assist in conducting the event. The school administrator shall be a neutral participant and shall only make content neutral statements during the event. To meet this standard, the administrator shall not promote or act in a manner that creates the appearance, or that could give the impression, that the district sponsors, endorses or otherwise agrees with the product, person/group, or event being promoted by the sponsor. No school employee may act as the representative of a sponsor or wear attire/apparel that is provided by the sponsor or that could be interpreted as promoting the sponsor's interests. Employees or representatives of/affiliated with the sponsor may be present at the event and stand with the member of school administration who is announcing and conducting the event; such employees/representatives of the sponsor may wear clothing identifying them as sponsors of the event.

The superintendent, or designee, shall have the authority to regulate the time, place, and manner of the distribution of promotional materials by the event sponsor. "Promotional materials" includes, but is not limited to, pamphlets, pens/pencils, sports equipment (whether miniature or full sized), or clothing. The event sponsor shall provide the superintendent, or designee, with a complete list of the types of promotional materials the event sponsor intends to distribute at the event so that the superintendent, or designee, may make an informed decision on the time, place, and manner of distribution that would result in the least amount of disturbance with the interscholastic activity.

7.22—PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP OF EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS,
continued, page 2

The superintendent, or designee, should take the following into account when determining the best time, place, and manner of distribution of promotional materials:

- Whether the promotional materials could be a distraction to participants in the interscholastic activity due to the promotional material emitting light or noise;
- Whether the promotional materials have a high possibility of being able to be used against participants of the interscholastic activity to attempt to alter the outcome of the activity;
- The possibility that the promotional materials would be left by recipients to become litter; and
- The possibility that the promotional materials would divert the attention of the audience from the interscholastic activity.

The superintendent, or designee, shall limit the distribution of promotional materials to audience members when they are entering the school building/arena, during the sponsored half-time event, and/or when they are leaving the school building/arena. The superintendent's, or designee's, restrictions on the time, place, and manner of promotional materials shall be final.

Any funds received through private sponsorship shall be placed in the district's activity account. The superintendent, or designee, should follow the policy for receiving public gifts or donations when negotiating the sponsorship amount, as set forth in Policy 6.3—Public Gifts and Donations to the Schools.

Cross Reference: Policy 6.3 —Public Gifts and Donations to the Schools

Legal Reference: DESE Rules Governing Athletic Revenues and Expenditures for Public School Districts

Date Adopted: May 20, 2014

Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.20 – ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

District funds shall only be disbursed by the district treasurer upon the receipt of checks or warrants signed by the district Board of Directors' disbursing officer and the superintendent or through the electronic transfer of funds. Any electronic transfer of funds must be initiated by the District and authorized in writing by both the disbursing officer of the school district Board of Directors and the superintendent.

For the purposes of this policy, "initiated by the District" means the District controls both the timing and the amount of the funds transfer.

The district treasurer shall maintain evidence of authority for the disbursement in the form of invoices, payrolls that conform with written contracts on file in his/her office, or other appropriate documentation indicating an authority to disburse district funds.

"Other appropriate documentation" includes one-time, signed authorization for recurring transactions. The Board of Directors' disbursing officer must pre-authorize the electronic transfer of funds for non-recurring transactions which can be accomplished by a signed authorization or an e-mail authorizing such a disbursement of funds.

Cross Reference: 1.16 —DUTIES OF BOARD DISBURSING OFFICER

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-13-701(e)
 Commissioner's Memo Com-12-036

Date Adopted: July 17, 2012

Last Revised:

7.23—HEALTHCARE COVERAGE AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Definitions

“Dependent”, for purposes of this policy, means an employee’s child(ren) and/or spouse who are enrolled by the employee in health care coverage through the district’s healthcare plans.

“Full-time school bus driver” means a person employed by the district to drive regular routes during the annual school year:

1. Who contracts with the district to operate a school bus for at least seven hundred twenty (720) hours during the school year;
2. Whose primary source of income during the school year is obtained by operating a school bus for the district; or
3. Who contracts with the district to operate a school bus and is designated by the superintendent as a full-time school bus driver, regardless of the number of hours for which the person is contracted.

“Full-time employee”, for purposes of this policy, means an employee who is:

- a. In a position requiring on average thirty (30) hours of actual performance per week during the annual school year; or
- b. A full-time school bus driver.

“Responsible individual” means a primary insured employee who, as a parent or spouse, enrolls one or more individual(s) in health care coverage through the district’s healthcare plans.

“Variable hour employee”, for the purposes of this policy, means an individual, other than a full-time school bus driver, who has no base minimum number of hours of performance required per week.

Health Insurance Enrollment

All full-time district employees are eligible to enroll themselves; their spouse, so long as the spouse is not otherwise eligible for insurance through his/her employer's sponsored plan; and their child(ren) in one of the insurance plans through the Public School Employee Life and Health Insurance Program (PSELHIP). Variable hour employees are not eligible to enroll in a PSELHIP plan. If a variable hour employee’s measurement period finds that the employee averaged thirty (30) or more hours per week, then the employee is treated as a full-time employee rather than a variable hour employee and is eligible for health insurance. New full-time employees have sixty (60) days following the start date of the employee’s contract to elect to enroll in a PSELHIP plan; all new employees shall be informed in writing of the start date of the employee’s contract and that the employee has sixty (60) days from that date to elect PSELHIP coverage. Coverage for new employees who choose to enroll in a PSELHIP plan shall take effect on the first of the month following the date on the enrollment application. Coverage shall be in effect until the end of the calendar year. Employees who experience a Qualifying Status Change Event have sixty (60) days from the date of the Qualifying Status Change Event to file an application to change coverage information. All employees who continue to be eligible may elect to continue coverage and make changes to their PSELHIP plan for the following plan year during the yearly open enrollment period.

7.23—HEALTHCARE COVERAGE AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, continued, page 2

The district shall ensure all employees are provided education annually on the advantages and disadvantages of a consumer-driven health plan option and effective strategies of using a Health Savings Account (HSA).

District Contribution to Premiums

At a minimum, the District shall distribute the established contribution rate to all employees who are enrolled in one of the PSELHIP plans. The district does not participate in the State Health Insurance Portability.

Measurement Method of Employee Hours

The district uses the look-back method for determining if an employee qualifies as a full-time employee.

W-2

For all full-time employees who are enrolled in a PSELHIP plan, the district shall indicate in box twelve (12) of the employee's Form W-2 the cost of the employee's health care coverage by using code "DD."

IRS Returns

The district will electronically file with the IRS by March 31 of each year the forms required by the IRS on the health insurance coverage of each full-time employee for the previous calendar year, whether or not the full-time employee participates in a health insurance plan through the PSELHIP.

Statement of Return

The district shall send to each full-time employee a Statement of Return (Statement) regarding the IRS Return filed on the employee. The Statement shall contain: The district's name, address, and Employer Identification Number (EIN) as well as a copy of the IRS Return filed on the employee. The district shall send a copy of the Statement to the employee on or before January 31 of the calendar year following the calendar year the information in the Statement covers. The district shall send only one Statement to the household of an employee who meets the definition of a responsible individual that will include all requisite information for both the responsible individual and the responsible individual's dependent(s). The Statement will be mailed to the employee's address on record.

Record Retention

The district shall maintain copies of the Statements sent to employees in accordance with the requirements for documents transmitted to the IRS in Policy 7.15—RECORD RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION.

Cross Reference: 7.15—RECORD RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION

7.23—HEALTHCARE COVERAGE AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT,
continued, page 3

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-17-1117
 A.C.A. § 21-5-401 et seq.
 26 C.F.R. § 54.4980h-0 et seq.
 26 C.F.R. § 31.6001-1
 26 C.F.R. § 301.6056-1

Date Adopted: May 20, 2014

Last Revised: July 19, 2022

7.24—ADVERTISING ON SCHOOL BUSES

Under the authority granted by A.C.A. § 6-19-129 and the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing Advertising on School Buses:

The district has chosen to use the legally provided space on district school buses for purchased advertising space and to place any items created by the district's information office.

The superintendent shall develop procedures for soliciting proposals for advertising, as well as guidelines for the review and acceptance of advertisements.

The Board, or designee, shall approve each advertisement before it is displayed on a district bus. The Board reserves the right to reject any advertisement that it deems inappropriate for the school setting. If the district contracts with a third party for the solicitation of potential advertisers and the development of advertising programs, the district retains the final authority to accept or reject potential advertisers and proposed advertisements.

Advertising shall be accepted solely for the purpose of generating revenue for the district transportation program and not for the purpose of establishing a forum for communication. All revenue the district receives from advertisements shall only be used to reduce district transportation costs.

Regardless of the viewpoint expressed in the advertisements, advertisements shall not be approved that are:

1. For a political candidate, political party, the adoption of any bond/budget issues, or any public question submitted at any general, county, municipal, or school election as required by A.C.A. § 7-1-111;
2. Of an obscene or pornographic nature;
3. Promoting drugs, alcohol, tobacco, firearms, or similar products; or
4. Otherwise deemed to be inappropriate for minors.

The district shall also reserve the right to reject advertising that is inconsistent with:

- a. Federal laws and regulations or state laws and rules;
- b. Commissioner's memos;
- c. The First Amendment;
- d. Board policy;
- e. The district's mission, goals, standards, and curriculum; or
- f. Any content the district determines has a reasonable likelihood of exposing the district to controversy, litigation, or disruption.

A food or beverage advertisement shall not be permitted unless it satisfies the advertising requirements of Policy 5.29—WELLNESS POLICY.

Acceptance of an advertisement on district school buses shall not constitute approval or endorsement of any product; service; issue; organization; activity; or position referenced in the advertisement, nor shall acceptance of advertising from a vendor determine whether the district will purchase goods or services

7.24—ADVERTISING ON SCHOOL BUSES, continued, page 2

from the vendor through the district’s procurement process in Policy 7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT.

The Board has the authority to terminate advertisements on school buses at any time. The Board may, at its sole discretion, cease to allow the display of any previously approved advertisement if it finds the advertisement to have become inappropriate due to changing circumstances.

Approved advertisements may be placed:

- On the rear quarter-panels of the exterior of the bus;
- At least three inches (3”) behind the rear wheel and not closer than four inches (4”) from the lower edge of the window line;
- At least three inches (3”) from any required letter, lamp, wheel well, reflector, or emergency exit; and
- Within a block no larger than thirty inches (30”) in height and sixty inches (60”) in length.

Any reflective tape between the floorline and beltline of the bus that is covered by an advertisement will be replaced by placing reflective tape either above or below the advertisement. No brackets or hardware shall be applied to the bus to hold advertisements.

Advertisements must be of a durable printed material. In order to not create a handhold or present a danger to pedestrians, the advertisement shall not:

- Intentionally extend from the body; or
- Extend from the body due to damage.

All advertisements shall contain the phrase “Paid advertisement” in a place, font, color, and size that it may be easily read from a distance of at least ten feet (10’).

Cross References: Policy 5.29—WELLNESS POLICY
 Policy 6.9—MEDIA RELATIONS AND NEWS RELEASES
 Policy 7.5—PURCHASES AND PROCUREMENT

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-19-129
 A.C.A. § 7-1-111
 Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation
 Rules Governing Advertising on School Buses
 7 C.F.R. § 210.31

Date Adopted: May 17, 2016

Last Revised: July 16, 2019

7.101—VISA PURCHASING CARD POLICY

The district has implemented a purchasing card program to aid employees in purchasing and paying for authorized goods and services on behalf of the district with an individually-issued APSRC Visa Purchasing Card (P-Card). The purpose of this program is to establish a more efficient, cost-effective method of purchasing items for district programs and activities.

The superintendent or his or her designee is responsible for administering the program for the district and has sole discretion to assign a P-Card to an individual district employee. A P-Card may not be transferred to, assigned to, or used by anyone other than the designated employee.

Annually, all prospective cardholders must sign a Purchasing Cardholder Agreement (Cardholder Agreement) prior to a P-Card being issued and must abide by the Agreement. All prospective cardholders must be at least eighteen (18) years old and have sufficient mental capacity to form a valid contract under Arkansas law. Non-district employees are not eligible for a P-Card.

Use for personal purchases is strictly prohibited. A P-Card CANNOT be used as payment for certain restricted items as listed below. The P-Card is NOT a revolving credit line and all statements must be paid monthly. All district purchasing and financial guidelines apply to any and all purchases made with a P-Card.

Fraudulent use or misuse of a P-Card may result in criminal prosecution, and, in the sole determination of the superintendent or his or her designee (unless otherwise stated in the Cardholder Agreement) may be considered sufficient grounds for revocation of an employee's P-Card privileges. Additionally, improper use may lead to other adverse employment actions up to and including termination.

Card Restrictions

The P-Card CANNOT be used as payment for the following items:

- *ALL items intended solely for personal, non-district use;*
- *Alcoholic beverages or tobacco;*
- *Lottery tickets;*
- *Cash advances or ATM withdrawals;*
- *Money orders; and*
- *Prepaid credit or debit cards.*

MCC codes will be utilized to restrict purchases of the above items.

All district purchasing and financial guidelines must still be adhered to. This policy is not intended to take precedence over any other purchasing policy implemented by the district or as required by law. In case of a conflict, state law and specific procurement policies take precedence.

Date Adopted: April 16, 2019

Last Revised:

7.101F—ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE VISA PURCHASING CARD AND TERMS OF REVOCATION FORM

I agree to accept responsibility for the protection and proper use of the Purchasing Card in accordance with the terms and conditions below and in accordance with the Purchasing Card Procedures Handbook.

- 1. I understand that I will be making financial commitments on behalf of the Texarkana Arkansas School District (TASD) and will seek to maximize the purchasing value.*
- 2. I understand that personal purchases are not allowed on the Purchasing Card, and I agree to use the Purchasing Card for the purchase of items for use in official business only. All purchases must comply with the TASD purchasing policies. I understand that examples of items not to be purchased with the Purchasing Card are included in the Purchasing Card Handbook; however, I also understand this list is not all inclusive and that if I have a question about a purchase I will go to my supervisor for approval.*
- 3. I understand that I shall be personally liable for the inadvertent/improper use of the Purchasing Card, and I agree to pay the cost of such use including fees and interest assessed against the improper purchase. This excludes the improper use as the result of a lost or stolen card which was immediately reported as required in the Purchasing Card Procedures Handbook.*
- 4. I understand that improper use of the Purchasing Card may be cause for disciplinary action, including termination, and that improper use of the Purchasing Card may subject me to criminal prosecution.*
- 5. I also understand that if there are amounts, which are attributable to my improper use of the Purchasing Card, I agree to reimburse TASD or the amount may be deducted from my paycheck.*
- 6. I agree to abide by the guidelines contained in the TASD Purchasing Card Handbook.*
- 7. I understand that failing to follow the Purchasing Card program guidelines may be deemed an improper use of the card and could result in revocation of the Purchasing Card and appropriate disciplinary action, which may include termination.*
- 8. I agree to provide original, itemized receipts from the supplier for each transaction made on the Purchasing Card as required by the TASD Purchasing Card Handbook. Failure to report or document any purchase may be deemed an improper use of the Purchasing Card.*
- 9. I understand that should my employment with TASD terminate for any reason, the Purchasing Card must be returned to the district treasurer.*
- 10. I understand that TASD may withdraw authorization to use the Purchasing Card and require the return of the Purchasing Card at any time for any reason. If the Purchasing Card is lost or stolen, I agree to notify my immediate supervisor and the district treasurer immediately.*
- 11. I have been given a copy of the TASD Purchasing Card Handbook, have read the handbook, have received training on the Purchasing Card Program, and understand the requirements for Purchasing Card use.*

**7.101F—ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE VISA
PURCHASING CARD AND TERMS OF REVOCATION FORM, continued,
page 2**

By signing below, you are acknowledging you have read the Purchasing Card Handbook and will abide by the policies and procedures discussed herein.

Cardholder Signature _____

Date _____

TASD Business Office/Administration Signature _____

Date _____

Date Adopted: April 16, 2019

Last Revised: