

Book Policy Manual

Section 6000 Finances

Title Copy of USE OF CREDIT CARDS

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6423 - USE OF- DISTRICT CREDIT CARDS AND PURCHASING CARDS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of an efficient method of payment and recordkeeping for certain expenses. The Board, therefore, authorizes the use of District credit cards.

Credit cards shall not be used to circumvent the general purchasing procedures established by Board policy. The Board affirms that credit cards shall only be used in connection with Board-approved or school-related activities and that only those types of expenses that are for the benefit of the District and serve a valid and proper public purpose mayshall be paid for by credit card. Under no circumstances shall credit cards be used for personal purchases or the purchase of alcoholic beverages regardless of whether the purchase of such beverages is made in connection with a meal. The credit card may never be used to purchase alcohol or personal items or services, nor is the personal gain of credit card rewards such as bonus points, frequent flyer miles, or any other affinity program reward permitted under any circumstances.

Inappropriate or illegal use of the credit card and/or failure to strictly comply with the limitations and requirements set forth in the administrative guidelines may result in a loss of credit card privileges, disciplinary action, up to and including termination, personal responsibility for any and all inappropriate charges, including finance charges and interest assessed in connection with the purchase, and/or possible referral to law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

The Board directs the District Administrator to determine and specify those employees authorized to use District credit cards. The District Administrator shall be responsible for giving direction to and supervising such employees' use of District credit cards.

The District Administrator shall develop administrative guidelines that specify those authorized to use credit cards, the types of expenses which can be paid by credit card, and their proper supervision and use.

The Board of Education recognizes that bank credit cards ("purchasing cards") offer an alternative to existing procurement processes and provide a convenient, efficient method of purchasing minor goods and services with a value of less than \$1,000. Board employees authorized by the Bookkeeper may use purchasing cards only for school related purposes in accordance with this policy and any related administrative guidelines. Purchasing cards shall not be used to circumvent the general purchasing procedures required by law and Board policy.

All approved cardholders must agree to abide by purchasing card procedures and regulations set forth in this policy and related administrative guidelines. All transactions must be made by the individual to whom the card is issued. To combat potential fraud, any employee that is issued a purchasing card must review all statements received within a reasonable period of time after receipt to assure that all purchases are ones that the employee made.

Purchasing card providers shall be provided no individual cardholder information (e.g., credit records or social security numbers) other than the individual cardholder's work address.

The Bookkeeper shall conduct independent regular reviews of each cardholder's activity to verify that the purchasing card is being used in accordance with this policy.

Cardholders must use common sense and good judgment when using school resources. This policy and related administrative guidelines cannot cover every issue, exception, or contingency that may arise during the cardholder's use of the purchasing card.

Cardholders will immediately surrender their cards upon request of District Administrator for administrative reasons, and shall surrender their cards upon separation from employment.

The purchasing card may never be used for alcohol, personal items or services, nor is the personal gain of credit card rewards such as bonus points, frequent flyer miles, or any other affinity program reward permitted under any circumstances.

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