

FINANCE

Policy 611.4

Purchasing Goods and Services

The Board of Education (Richmond) recognizes its responsibility for the effective use of public funds in providing quality education to its students. The Board will ensure that all goods and services are obtained in a responsible, cost-effective and professional manner in accordance with competitive public sector procurement practices.

The Board values the district purchasing department's contribution to educational and operational programs through:

- Application of specialized professional knowledge,
- Development of district-wide standards,
- Utilization of public purchasing standards and public sector buying,
- Efficiency of acquisition services,
- Acquisition of sustainable and green products, when possible,
- Realization of best value in acquiring goods and services.

The Board believes the school district should cooperate with other public authorities when appropriate.

The Board's purchasing objective is to satisfy the operational needs of the school district while realizing overall best value for the school district.

The Board recognizes that professional judgment must be exercised in order to achieve an appropriate balance between the Board's principles of purchasing and assigns the responsibility for those judgment to the Secretary Treasurer or designate. The school district's procurement activities must be conducted with integrity and the highest standard of ethical conduct. All individuals involved in the school district's procurement activities act in a manner that is consistent with the principles and objectives of this policy and in accordance with Policy 400-R1 - Conflict of Interest-Employees.