

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OKALOOSA COUNTY INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM FINANCE DEPARTMENT

FINANCE TAM: 2012-045

CONTACT:

Julie Perry, Director

Budgeting & Financial Services

TELEPHONE: 833-5850

TO:

School Principals

FROM:

Rita R. Scallan, Chief Financial Officer

DATE:

June 19, 2012

SUBJECT:

Internal Funds Bookkeepers' Workshop Update

Carr, Riggs, & Ingram (CRI), Certified Public Accountants, sponsored an Internal Funds School Bookkeepers' Workshop on May 25, 2012. For your information, this memorandum provides information about the items that were discussed at this workshop.

I. Overview of Audit Objectives - Presented by CRI

a. Compliance Audit

The auditing firm uses the State Red Book, Internal Accounting Manual, and sound business practices as its authority when performing the compliance audit.

b. Financial Statement Audit

The Principal's Report is considered the financial statement of internal funds. The auditing firm confirms that the report is not materially misstated and that monies are properly classified.

c. Internal Controls

Internal controls are in place for the protection of the bookkeeper and money collectors. The auditing firm ensures that internal controls are being followed.

II. Discussion of Prior Year Findings - Presented by CRI

a. <u>Invoices</u>

The Red Book, Chapter 8, Section I, Paragraph 8 states, "Sound business practices should be observed in all transactions."

One such sound business practice is that the payee and amount on the check and requisition should equal that noted on the vendor invoice. Check requisitions should be filled out and agree to the amount on the invoice. In the event that a different amount is to be paid, adequate documentation on the invoice or the check requisition should be present in regard to why and how the amount being requested was determined. This will help ensure that invoices are not over or under paid.

b. Collection of Money - Teacher/Sponsor

Internal Funds Manual 1.009 (1) states, "...Collections made outside of the school office, which exceed \$10 in the aggregate must be turned into the school office daily."

It isn't difficult for teachers to collect large sums of cash when receiving money for a large field trip or fundraiser. Students know when money is being collected and should never be given the opportunity to help themselves to cash left in a teacher's desk.

Internal Funds Manual 1.120 states, "There are two options available for receipting of cash:

- (1) The first option would require a drop safe be installed at schools where most deposits are dropped. Neither the bookkeeper nor witness should have the safe combination. Only the principal and not more than two backups should have the combination. Two people are required to be present when the safe is opened and the money counted. One person should be the bookkeeper and the second person could be an employee or approved volunteer.
- (2) The second option requires the person turning in the funds to wait for the bookkeeper to count the cash in his presence and issue a receipt at that time...."

By following these procedures, bookkeepers and money collectors are provided their greatest defense against accusations of theft.

c. Collection of Money - Bookkeeper

Internal Funds Manual 1.009 (2) states, "All money collected must be deposited intact in the bank at a minimum any time more than \$500 is received."

The money collected is safer in the bank. When the money is deposited on a timely basis, there leaves less room for theft.

d. Invoices Not Stamped Paid

Internal Funds Manual 1.026 (3) states, "Invoices will be marked 'PAID' immediately upon making remittance."

Stamping the invoice paid upon remittance aides against duplicate payments to a vendor for the same invoice.

e. No Sponsor/Teacher Signature on the Check Requisition

Internal Funds Manual 1.142 states, "...The form is initiated be the teacher or sponsor desiring to make an expenditure. The teacher sponsor must sign this form..."

By signing the form, the teacher or sponsor is authorizing the disbursement of funds from his or her account.

III. Discussion of Note-Worthy Items - Presented by CRI

a. Field Trip Advances Best Practices

The Budgeting Department has provided some Travel Expenditure guidelines (see attached). It is recommended to have a form detailing the appropriate expenses and procedures for advancing money, including documenting where the money went. The teacher/sponsor would sign the form acknowledging the advanced funds were received. After the field trip, the teacher/sponsor should have a listing of the students that received the money similar to the example in the Travel Expenditures handout. Any unused money must be receipted on a MCF, noting that the funds are change from Check #xxxx. The MCF number for the excess funds should be included in the documentation for the check advance. The receipts plus excess funds deposited must equal the total check amount.

b. Donations

When a donation is made to an organization, request a letter or a receipt indicating the funds were remitted to that organization. We want to make sure the funds are going to the appropriate place.

IV. Sales Tax - Presented by the Budgeting Department

a. TAM 2012-046 Sales Tax Update was given out at the meeting and discussed. Please see this TAM for additional information, including complete Sales Tax rules and examples.

V. Journal Entries - Presented by the Budgeting Department

a. Bookkeepers received a handout with examples of various Journal Entries. The handout is included with this memorandum.

VI. Recognition and Achievement Awards - Presented by the Budgeting Department

a. Bookkeepers received a handout outlining School Board Policy 2-11 (L) in regard to Recognition and Achievement Awards. Examples have been added to the handout which is attached to this memorandum.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Julie Perry at 833-5850.

Attachment

cc: Executive Staff Bookkeepers A. The guidelines in the Travel Procedures manual apply to all travel, even that being funded by internal funds. The Travel Procedures manual is available on the Finance webpage.

B. Individual Travel

- 1. When reimbursing travel for an individual, the TDE (District personnel only) and Travel Reimbursement Forms shall be completed and kept at the school level rather than being submitted to the District Office.
- 2. The Travel Reimbursement Form shall be used as backup for the reimbursement check.
- 3. No expense money may be given to an employee in advance for an individual TDE trip.
- 4. The traveler may only be reimbursed after completing the proper paperwork.

C. Student Travel

- 1. When internal funds are used for <u>student travel</u> (hotels, transportation, entertainment, and meals with pre-determined prices) the expenses shall be paid by one of the following methods:
 - a. Internal funds check using the check advance method,
 - b. District purchase order,
 - c. District VISA, or
 - d. District Car Rental Card (AVIS as of July 2009).
- 2. Required chaperone expenditures are considered a part of student travel.
- 3. If it is not possible to determine the expenses in advance, such as when paying for most meals, the sponsor may receive a cash advance.
- 4. When a school travels to out-of-state locations, they will be responsible for the hotel sales tax. The school has the option of applying to the State for a "Non-Profit Exemption Certificate" prior to travel. The "Non-Profit Exemption Certificate" cannot be issued to our District. It can only be issued to the specific school which is renting the out-of-state hotel room(s). The application process takes approximately six weeks; therefore, schools wishing to use this option will need to apply for the certificate at least two months prior to the planned trip. The application must be filled out completely and a letter (on letterhead) from the Principal of the school must be attached explaining the reason for the request.

- 5. The following are some examples of proper documentation:
 - a. Meal Allowances for Student Travel Students may be given meal allowances up to the maximum amount allowed per the District's travel procedures. A form may be prepared containing the information about the trip. The students' signatures would be included to show they were on the field trip. The chaperone would then mark each column as funds are distributed and sign the form at the bottom. This would serve as the receipt for meal allowances. (See Sample: Meal Allowances for Students)
 - b. Meals Paid for by the Sponsor The sponsor may pay for the students' meals directly using a cash advance. The school is required to pay sales tax for meals when traveling. The sponsor would turn the receipt in to the bookkeeper.
 - c. Hotel Expenses for Student Travel The rooms may be *guaranteed (not paid)* with the bookkeeper's District VISA card or the sponsor's personal credit card. The sponsor would then contact the hotel and ask for a detailed quote to be faxed to the school. This quote would be attached to the Check Requisition, and the check would be written. The sponsor would obtain an itemized paid receipt from the hotel showing a breakdown of all charges.
 - d. Admission to Tourist Attractions The sponsor would contact the attraction and ask for a detailed quote to be faxed to the school. This quote would be attached to the Check Requisition, and the check would be written. The sponsor would obtain a receipt upon entrance to the attraction.

Sample: Meal Allowances for Students

ANY SCHOOL – DRAMA FIELD TRIP NOVEMBER 7, 2005

Meal allowances were distributed to the following students:

Student's Name	Student's Signature	Breakfast - \$3.00	Lunch – \$6.00	Dinner - \$12.00
Brown, Sally	Sally Brown	X	X	X
Doe, Jane	Jane Doe	X	X	X
Smith, John	John Smith	X	X	X

<u> </u>	<u>November 7, 2005</u>
Chaperone	Date

I. General Provisions - TRANSFERS

- A. Funds may be transferred from one account to another, with the principal's approval, only under one of the following conditions:
 - 1. The account is inactive.
 - 2. The account is an enterprise account, such as school store, and the profits are transferred to the school's general fund or to a student organization designated to benefit from the enterprise operation.
 - 3. From the schools general fund to any other school account where the funds are needed to complete a project which will benefit the major part of the student body.
 - 4. As a loan to another account if approved by the organization or sponsor loaning the funds. All loans must be repaid by June 1.
 - 5. At the request of the organization or sponsor to whose account the funds were originally deposited.
- B. When the principal or organization approves the transfer of funds from one account to another, a Check Requisition/Transfer Form (MIS 4003) shall be prepared.
 - 1. Signatures of the account sponsor, bookkeeper, principal, and organization officer, if applicable, are required.
 - 2. Backup documentation is required as in the case of a check.
- C. When transferring fundraiser profits, a copy of the approved fundraiser request should be used as backup.
 - 1. If the funds are being transferred from a sub-account of an organization to its main account, and the Fundraiser Request clearly states what is to be done with the funds, it is not necessary to obtain the sponsor's and/or organization officer's signatures on the Check Requisition/Transfer form.
- D. Should it be necessary to roll field trip funds from one grade level field trip account to another grade level field trip account at the end of the year, only the bookkeeper's and principal's signatures will be required.

E. Error Corrections:

- 1. If an error is made on a Transfer, another Transfer is used to correct it.
- 2. If a sponsor makes an error on a receipt or disbursement, a Transfer will be required to make the correction.
- 3. If a bookkeeper keying error is made on a receipt or disbursement, an Adjustment is used.

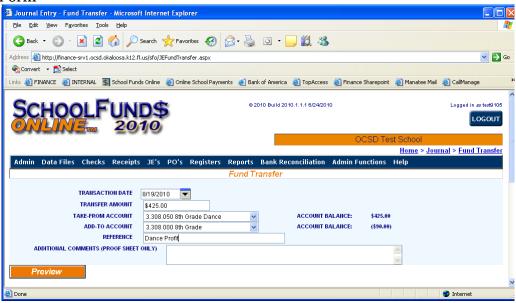
II. General Provisions - ADJUSTMENTS

- A. Adjustment Journal Entries affect Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements and are used in two situations:
 - 1. To record transactions in which no deposit was made and/or no check was written. Examples include receiving interest, paying sales tax, recording NSF checks, and adjusting electronic checks.
 - 2. To correct bookkeeper keying errors, such as entering a receipt for the wrong amount, receipting funds into the wrong account, or writing a check from the wrong account. Note: Sponsor errors are corrected through Transfer Journal Entries. Examples:
 - a. Bookkeeper Keying Error If a sponsor completes a Check Requisition listing the account as Band Uniforms, but the bookkeeper writes the check from Band Instruments, an Adjustment is required to correct the bookkeeper keying error.
 - b. Sponsor Error If a sponsor completes a Check Requisition listing the account as Band Instruments, the bookkeeper writes the check from Band Instruments, and then the sponsor states it should have been Band Uniforms, this is not a bookkeeper keying error. The bookkeeper's entry matches the Check Requisition. The sponsor must complete a Check Requisition/Transfer Form to transfer funds from Band Uniforms to Band Instruments to reimburse the expenditure.
- B. A Check Requisition/Transfer Form is not used for adjustments; however, there must be appropriate backup documentation attached to the adjustment.
- C. After entering the appropriate adjustment into the accounting software, the bookkeeper will print an Adjustment Voucher/Proof Sheet. The voucher/proof sheet must be signed by the bookkeeper and submitted with backup documentation to the principal for signature.
- D. If the adjustment was to correct an error, a copy of the voucher/proof sheet must be given to the sponsor of the account.
- E. Once approved, the Adjustment Voucher/Proof Sheet and backup documentation are stapled together. All Journal Entries (Adjustments and Transfers) are filed together numerically, most recent on top.

II. Sample Transfer Situations

A. Fundraiser Profit/Loss to Main Account

• Sponsor is recommended but not required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form



B. Field Trip - Small Leftover Funds

- Sponsor is not required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form
- Amounts will be rolled to the next grade level's field trip account; 5th, 8th, and 12th Grade are rolled to General

C. Reimburse Expenditure - One Account to Another

- Sponsor is required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form
- Example: Girls Track paid for supplies with Check #4321. Boys Track decides to pay a portion since they also use the supplies. Boys Track sponsor completes a Transfer Request to reimburse Girls Track for the expenditure.

D. Donation

- Sponsor is required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form
- Example: PTO donates funds to 6th Grade to help pay for a field trip.

E. Purchase

- Sponsor is required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form
- Example: Teacher uses supply money to purchase books from Book Fair.

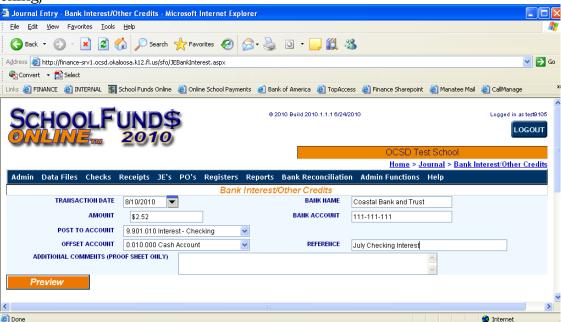
F. Multi-Fund Transfer

- Sponsor is required to sign the Check Requisition/Transfer Form
- Example: PTO donates funds to several teacher accounts.

III. Transfer & Adjustment Examples

A. Bank Interest/Other Credits

Backup Required: Bank and/or Investment Statement in the monthly folder Accounts Affected: Fund Account (such as Interest) and Cash Account (such as Checking)

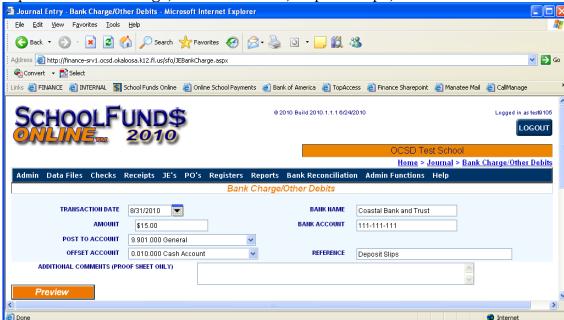


B. Bank Charge/Other Debit

Backup Required: Bank Statement in the monthly folder

Accounts Affected: Fund Account (such as Interest) and Cash Account (such as Checking)

Examples: Service Charge, NSF Check Fee, Deposit Slips, etc.

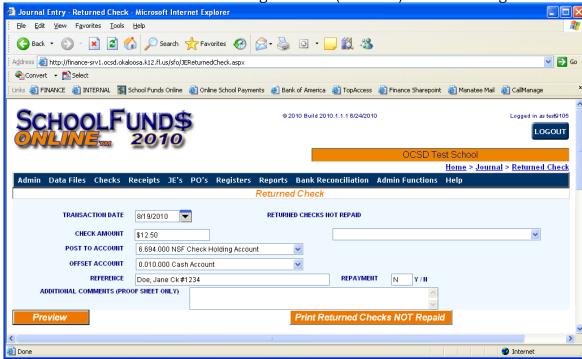


School District of Okaloosa County

C. NSF (Returned) Check

Backup Required: Copy of Notice (Name, Check Number, Amount) (The original notice is filed in the NSF folder.)

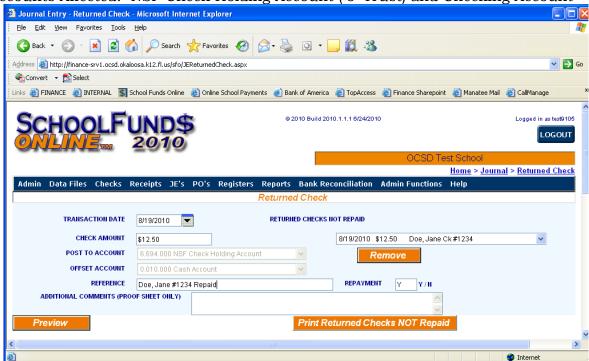
Accounts Affected: NSF Check Holding Account ('6' Trust) and Checking Account



D. NSF (Repaid) Check

Backup Required: Copy of Notice (Name, Check Number, Amount) (The original notice is filed in the NSF folder.)

Accounts Affected: NSF Check Holding Account ('6' Trust) and Checking Account

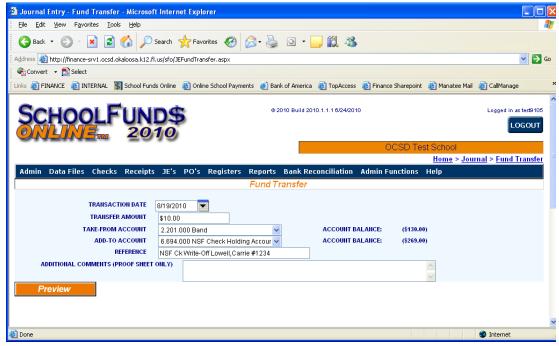


School District of Okaloosa County

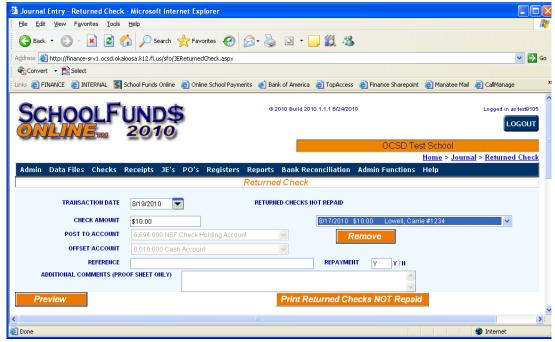
E. Worthless Check Write-Off (Fund Transfer)

Backup Required: Copy of Memo from District (Name, Check Number, Amount) (The original memo is filed in the NSF folder.)

Accounts Affected: NSF Check Holding Account ('6' Trust) increased, Original Fund Account decreased



Special Note: Once the check is written off, remove the returned check from the returned check list. Go to JE's, Returned Check, and choose the check in the drop down list. Click "remove."

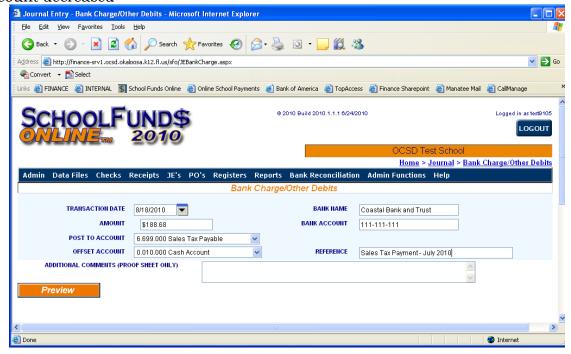


School District of Okaloosa County

F. Sales Tax Payment (Bank Charge/Other Debit)

Backup Required: Copy of Sales Tax Return (Original Sales Tax Return is filed in Sales Tax folder)

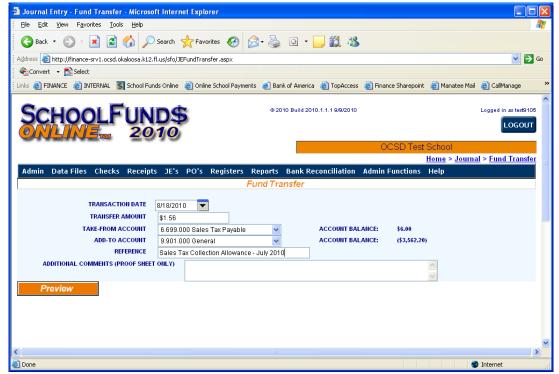
Accounts Affected: Sales Tax Payable Account ('6' Trust) decreased, Checking Account decreased



G. Sales Tax Collection Allowance (Fund Transfer)

Backup Required: Copy of Sales Tax Return (Original Sales Tax Return is filed in Sales Tax folder)

Accounts Affected: Sales Tax Payable Account ('6' Trust) decreased, General Account increased

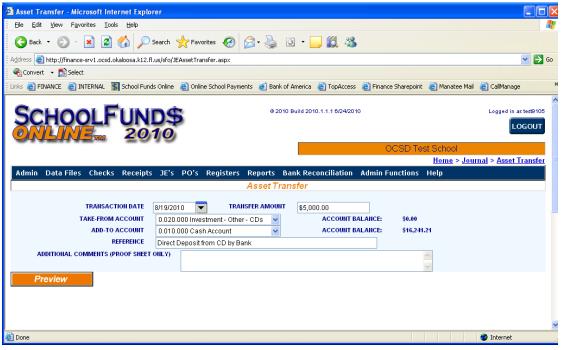


School District of Okaloosa County

H. Asset Transfer

Backup Required: Bank Statements

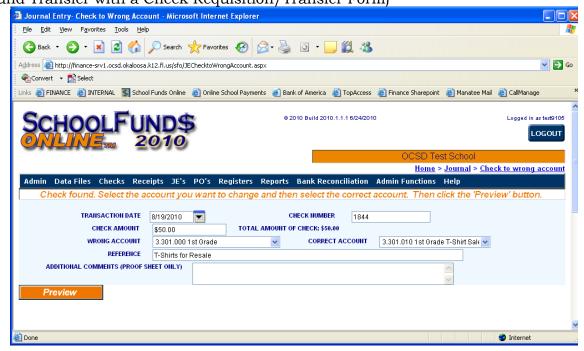
Example: Bank deposits funds directly from a CD or investment account to the school's checking account – Investment Account is decreased and Checking Account is increased



I. Check to Wrong Account

Backup Required: Reference Original Check Number

Example: Bookkeeper Keying Error (Sponsor Errors must be corrected through a Fund Transfer with a Check Requisition/Transfer Form)

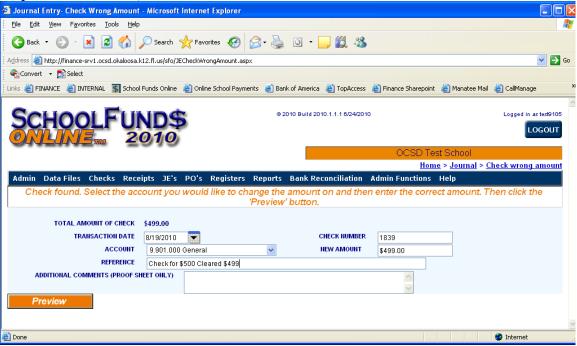


School District of Okaloosa County

J. Check for Wrong Amount

Backup Required: Bank Statement

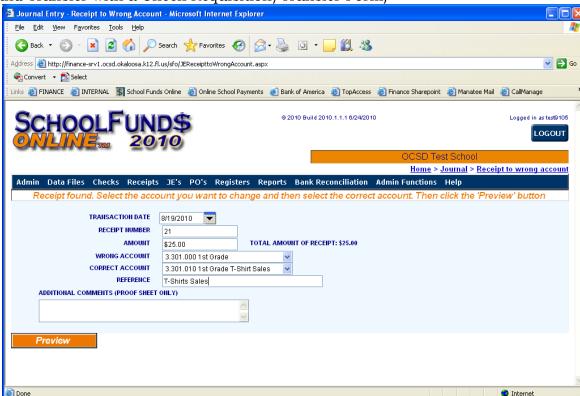
Example: Bank Error, Electronic Check Cleared for Less Than Face Value



K. Receipt to Wrong Account

Backup Required: Reference Original Receipt Number

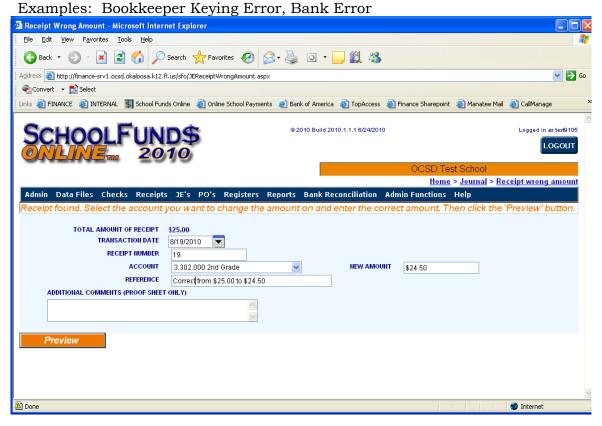
Example: Bookkeeper Keying Error (Sponsor Errors must be corrected through a Fund Transfer with a Check Requisition/Transfer Form)



School District of Okaloosa County

L. Receipt for Wrong Amount

Backup Required: Reference Original Receipt Number



Per School Board Policy 2-11 (L):

- A. Internal funds may be expended to provide:
 - 1. Recognition of service or contributions by persons or businesses; or
 - 2. Recognition of achievement by students, teachers or other employees.
- B. The following guidelines apply:
 - 1. All achievement awards to be given by student or school support organizations must have prior approval of the general membership of the organization or as set forth in the by-laws of the organization. Examples of support organizations are booster clubs and PTOs.
 - 2. No other school internal funds may be used to purchase any award, gift, or amenity except to recognize the following:
 - a. Instructional or Educational Support employee of the year
 - b. Retiring employees
 - c. Faculty and staff at the beginning of the school year (refreshments for a 'welcome back' breakfast, not gifts)
 - d. Student academic achievement
 - e. Student athletic achievement
 - f. Volunteers and business or community organizations performing a service to the school
 - 3. Awards are limited to plaques, certificates, or other items with monetary value of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or less.
 - 4. No cash awards or payments may be made to or on behalf of any student or employee of the District.
 - 5. These provisions do not apply to student scholarships awards by student or school organizations.
 - 6. This section shall apply to all school support organizations.

(See next page for examples.)

RECOGNITION OR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

School District of Okaloosa County

Examples:

Can a grade level buy gift cards as a thank you for parents that went above and beyond to help them throughout the year?

Section A.1. states that internal funds may be expended to provide recognition of service or contributions by persons or businesses; therefore, it would be permissible to give gift cards to parent volunteers in recognition of service. The gift cards would have to be \$100.00 or less per section B.3.

Can the PTO purchase a gift card for an employee that has spent her personal time to help them organize the PTO events?

Section A.2. states that the only recognition for employees is for achievement; therefore, the PTO may not give a gift card to an employee in recognition of service. Any compensation for service by an employee must go through Payroll. The PTO could pay the employee other compensation by sending the funds to the District for deposit in Project 2051 – Purchased Other Positions.

Can Principal's Discretionary funds be used for food for teacher meeting/workshops?

Yes, teacher meetings/workshops are school events; therefore, Principal's Discretionary could be used for refreshments.