

KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AGENDA STATEMENT

No. 7 e

MEETING OF August 14, 2019

REVIEWED BY:

ITEM TITLE:

PUBLIC HEARING - POLICY  
Approval of revised Board Policy 4133 - Travel Expenses  
in first reading

Superintendent  
 Personnel  
 Finance  
 Policy Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Katie Jo Parrott, Business Manager

CONTACT PERSON/TELEPHONE:

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

Katie Parrott                      907-247-2116  
Name                                      Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The School Board is being asked to approve the policy update/revision for Travel Expenses.

ISSUE:

Board Policy 9310 dictates that “the district shall develop or revise policies and regulations in order to reflect new legislation and changing community views.” Additionally, BP 9311 calls for the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee to “maintain procedures for the continuous orderly review of existing policies at a time allocated for this purposes on the agenda of regular Board meetings... in addition to presenting drafts or suggestions for new policy and policy revisions when changes in law occur or when a specific need arises”.

BACKGROUND:

The revision of the policy makes the main policy consistent with the administrative regulations, in that all travel outside of the Borough requires the authorization of expenditures. The policy revision acknowledges that travel outside of the borough usually involves methods of travel and expenses that are similar to travel anywhere within or without the state, and therefore should be processed and approved according to the same best practices as reflected by policy and procedure.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the policy revisions as presented.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proposed revisions to BP 4133 and associated administrative regulations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

“I move that the Board of Education approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 4133 - Travel Expenses in first reading.”

**All Personnel**

BP 4133  
4233  
4333

**TRAVEL EXPENSES**

The School Board shall pay for actual and necessary expenses, including travel, incurred by any employee performing authorized services for the district. Expenses shall be reimbursed within limits established by the Board.

The Superintendent or designee may approve employee requests to attend meetings in accordance with the adopted budget.

The Superintendent or designee may authorize an advance of funds to cover necessary expenses. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the submission and verification of expense claims.

All travel must be approved by the employee's immediate supervisor. All out-of-district travel must be **prior** approved by **an administrator and** the Superintendent or designee **according to the procedures established by the district. No employee shall authorize his/her own travel, nor should funds be authorized for travel that are not under the approver's direct supervision.**

The Board may establish an allowance on either a mileage or monthly basis to reimburse designated employees for the use of their own vehicles in the performance of assigned duties.

All out-of-state **borough** travel must have Superintendent approval.

Travel expenses not previously budgeted must be approved on an individual basis by the Board.

*(cf. 3300 - Expenditures/Expending Authority)*

All Personnel

AR 4133(a)  
4233  
4333

## TRAVEL EXPENSES

### Travel Outside the Borough

1. 

**a) Travel shall be authorized and approved by the responsible administrator as for any other expenditure or purchase. Final approval of all out-of-district travel will be issued by the Superintendent.**

**b) Travel requests will be submitted on district authorized forms. Approved in-state travel requests must be submitted to the Business Office at least two weeks prior to the travel date. Approved out-of-state travel must be submitted to the Business Office at least 30 days prior to the travel date.**

**c) Approved travel is required for a district employee to be covered by the district's insurance and/or worker's compensation.**
2. 

**a) Air travel shall be reimbursed at coach class rate or lower purchased by the district at the lowest reimbursable fare available. Non-reimbursable saver fares should be avoided. Purchase of first class and premium upgrades are prohibited.**

**b) All air travel purchased through Alaska Airlines shall be purchased through the district's Easy Biz account. If available and conditions permit, excursion, supersaver or other discount rates should be utilized. Travel should be by the most direct route. Stopovers en route for purposes other than business resulting in increased airfare shall be deducted from the reimbursement.**

**c) Airfare purchased by an employee of the district shall only be reimbursed if the purchase was preauthorized for reimbursement by the Superintendent. Reimbursement on airfare will only be issued at the lowest available reimbursable fare available at the time of purchase.**

**d) Air travel paid for by the district may be changed by individual employees at their own expense. Should a change result in a credit on fare purchased by the district, that credit must be issued back to the district.**

**e) Travel purchased by an individual's personal award miles will not be reimbursed. Purchase of air travel for district business utilizing a personal companion fare is prohibited.**

**f) Air travel on personal aircraft is strictly prohibited.**

**g) Baggage charges paid or reimbursed by the district shall be limited to the authorized traveler's personal luggage or district baggage necessary to carry out the approved travel. Excess baggage charges will not be covered by the district.**

3. ~~Ferry, Taxi, and limousine fares~~ **Ground transportation to and from the airport and to and from the event venue shall be reimbursed upon submission of receipts. Ground transportation to and from locations traveled for personal reasons shall not be reimbursed.** ~~Whenever possible, receipts for fares should be retained and attached to the expense report.~~
4. ~~Vehicle rentals are authorized~~ **can be authorized at the discretion of the Superintendent** and shall be reimbursed only at those times when the conduct of school district business warrants the use of an automobile.
5. **a) Lodging shall be approved by the administrator and will be arranged through the business office. Whenever possible, lodging will be paid for with use of the district's travel credit card.**  
**b) Lodging paid for by an employee of the district shall only be reimbursed at cost and if preauthorized for reimbursement by the Superintendent. Lodging expenses should not exceed the location-specific federal per diem rate for lodging.**  
**c) Lodging expenses covered by the district are limited to the nightly room rate and associated taxes. Incidentals charged to lodging will be the responsibility of the employee.**
6. Per diem shall be **issued by check at \$50.00** for each night outside the Borough, **plus the cost of roundtrip ferry fare for the airport ferry.** Per diem **is intended to** cover meals and other personal incidentals **while traveling.**
7. Each person traveling for school district business shall be reimbursed ~~upon receipt of a signed and approved travel expense report for business-related expenditures. Receipts~~ **are required to be submitted with any reimbursement request.** ~~for transportation and lodging must be attached. All advances will be deducted.~~ **All receipts for reimbursement must be submitted with a requisition within 30 days of return from approved travel to ensure reimbursement.**
8. **a) Travel should be by the most direct route available, unless cost prohibitive. Any changes to travel needed as a result of a district-related business or unforeseen delays that are not the fault or in the control of the employee shall be authorized and paid for by the district. This includes additional lodging, per diem, or ground transportation.**

**b) Should unforeseen delays occur or itineraries or accommodations go unused as the result of circumstances that were within the employee's control, costs that cannot be reimbursed will be the responsibility of the employee.**

**c) Travel costs associated with the change of any itinerary for personal reasons will be the responsibility of the employee, including but not limited to: cancelled or additional lodging, cancelled or extended car rentals, additional airfare costs, meals, ground transportation.**

**9. Work-related travel that requires employees to be away from their regular work assignment shall be covered by the appropriate leave. Employees who extend travel days for personal reasons will be required to use personal or vacation leave. Leave must be requested and approved by the employee's supervisor prior to travel.**

### **Using Personal Vehicles**

1. Compensation to administrators for the continuous use of personal vehicles in the conduct of District business shall be determined by the superintendent, unless otherwise contracted by the Board. The extent of required use will be the primary determining factor in the amount of compensation allowed for each administrator.
2. Mileage reimbursement shall be provided to staff who are required to use their personal vehicles to conduct School District business or perform their regularly assigned duties.
3. A vehicle log will be kept by employees requesting mileage reimbursement. The log shall account for all usage pertaining to school district business.
4. Mileage attributed to vehicle use for school district business shall be determined by the Superintendent or his designee, upon review of the employee's vehicle log.
5. Approved mileage reimbursement ~~at the rate of \$.505 per mile~~ **shall be issued at the current IRS approved standard rate.**

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Revision Date: 8/25/08**  
**Revision Date: 7/27/16**  
**Revision Date: TBD**