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| Policy: | Purchasing |
| Reference: | CC-PO-001-2017 |
| Adopted: | June 21, 2017 |
| Revised: |  |



**Policy Goal:**

It is the policy of Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS) to purchase, rent or lease all goods and services in compliance with public sector procurement regulations. Factors to be considered should include, but not be limited to: price, quality, service, delivery/installation, operating, maintenance and disposal costs.

**Policy Statement:**

The member Boards and Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS) recognize an obligation to ensure efficient, high-quality service and reasonable stewardship of public funds.

CLASS recognizes the need for all purchasing related activities to be seen to be open, fair and transparent and for all individuals involved with purchasing to act, and be seen to act, with integrity and professionalism. CLASS will seek to obtain value for money and quality service delivery through standardized purchasing processes which will ensure that resources are used in an efficient, effective manner and which provides for appropriate accountability.

**Preamble:**

CLASS is a joint venture between the Lambton Kent District School Board and the St Clair Catholic District School Board.

CLASS is equally owned by the Lambton Kent District and the St Clair Catholic District School Boards who mutually benefit in the provision of shared services. CLASS is comprised of various departments including Student Transportation Services, Community Use of Schools, Child Care Services and Energy & Environmental Services.

**Policy Guidelines:**

CLASS shall conduct and manage the procurement process internally, engage either member board procurement departments, or engage a third party to purchase goods or services if such an alternative proves effective and efficient, where CLASS shall have the final authorization.

CLASS shall ensure that the desired procurement expertise is available in the event of procurement through other parties, and that their procurement procedures are in line with the Broader Public Sector (BPS) Directive. In the event of a discrepancy between a provision of this policy and a provision of the Directive, the latter shall prevail.

**Code of Ethics:**

To ensure an ethical, professional and accountable supply chain, CLASS has adopted the following Ontario Broader Public Sector (BPS) Procurement Directive’s Supply Chain Code of Ethics:

* **Personal Integrity and Professionalism:** Individuals involved with Supply Chain Activities must act, and be seen to act, with integrity and professionalism. Honesty, care and due diligence must be integral to all Supply Chain Activities within and between BPS organizations, suppliers and other stakeholders. Respect must be demonstrated for each other and for the environment. Confidential information must be safeguarded. Participants must not engage in any activity that may create, or appear to create, a conflict of interest, such as accepting gifts or favours, providing preferential treatment, or publicly endorsing suppliers or products.
* **Accountability and Transparency:** Supply Chain Activities must be open and accountable. In particular, contracting and purchasing activities must be fair, transparent and conducted with a view to obtaining the best value for public money. All participants must ensure that public sector resources are used in a responsible, efficient and effective manner.
* **Compliance and Continuous Improvement:** Individuals involved with purchasing or other Supply Chain Activities must comply with this Code of Ethics and the laws of Canada and Ontario. Individuals should continuously work to improve supply chain policies and procedures, to improve their supply chain knowledge and skill levels, and to share leading practices.