

security of any guaranty, deposit, trust, or other similar company [duly] authorized under the laws of Maryland to act in such capacity. The cost or fee for such security shall be paid by the county board of education, and [said] THE bond, when executed, shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court of the county. The bond shall provide that the employee will (1) faithfully perform the duties of his office and pay over and apply all moneys that [shall come to his hand or care] COME INTO HIS POSSESSION OR CONTROL to [such] THE persons and in [such] THE manner [as said] THAT THE board [may, under] IN ACCORDANCE WITH the provisions of this article, [direct] DIRECTS, and [that he will] (2) keep a full account of all moneys received and paid by him, and all matters relating to the duties of his office and (3) preserve [the same] THESE ACCOUNTS, and all vouchers relating [thereto] TO THEM, and deliver up all books and vouchers relating to this office to his successor. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY WITH RESPECT TO BALTIMORE CITY.

123.

(A) Where the cost of any school building, improvement, supplies, or equipment of any sort exceeds the sum of [five thousand dollars] \$5,000, the COUNTY board of education [in each county] shall advertise for bids in one or more newspapers published in [their respective counties] THE COUNTY, [publication of such advertisement to appear] at least two weeks prior to the date on which bids are to be filed [, and the].

(B) THE contract for any such school building, improvements, supplies, or other equipment shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, conforming to specifications, with consideration being given to quantities involved, time required for delivery, purpose for which required, competency and responsibility of bidder, and his ability to render satisfactory service[, but]. HOWEVER, the board of education [in the respective counties shall have the right to] MAY reject any and all bids and [to] readvertise for other bids[, and any]. A contract entered into or purchase made in violation of the provisions of this section shall be null and void[; provided, however that the].

(C) THE provisions of this section shall not apply to contracts for the purchase of books and [/or] other materials of instruction[, and provided further that the], TO EMERGENCY REPAIRS REQUIRED DURING THE PERIOD OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL YEAR, OR WITH RESPECT TO BALTIMORE CITY.

(D) THE board of education [in any county shall be permitted to] MAY name in the specifications and advertisements for bids under this section the particular make, kind, or brand of article or articles to be purchased or contracted for[, and provided further that nothing in this section shall apply to the emergency