
GIFTS, GRANTS AND BEQUESTS

The Board of Education accepts its responsibility to provide from public funds sufficient supplies and equipment for an effective instructional program. The Board recognizes, however, that from time to time individuals or organizations in the community may wish to contribute additional supplies or equipment to enhance or extend the instructional program.

Only the board of education may accept for the school district any bequest or gift of money, property or goods, except that the chief school administrator may accept on behalf of the board any such gift of less than \$1,000.00 in value.

The board reserves the right to refuse to accept any gift that does not contribute to the achievement of district goals or could deplete the resources of the district. . The Board shall not provide public moneys for the purchase of any school property on a matching fund basis.

Any gift accepted by the board or the chief school administrator shall become the property of the board, may not be returned without the approval of the board, and is subject to the same controls and regulations as are other properties of the board. The board shall be responsible for the maintenance of any gift it accepts.

The board will make every effort to honor the intent of the donor in its use of the gift, but reserves the right to use any gift it accepts in the best interest of the educational program of the district. In no case shall acceptance of a gift be considered to be an endorsement by the board of a commercial product or business enterprise or institution of learning.

Grants

Staff members are encouraged to seek out sources of grants and gifts, and bring them to the attention of the chief school administrator, who shall investigate the conditions of such grants and make recommendations to the board regarding the advisability of seeking them. The CSA may provide release time opportunities for staff to complete grant applications.

Educational Foundation

An educational foundation may be created for the purpose of soliciting and raising monetary gifts and donations for the school district. This foundation shall be governed by a board of directors that shall recommend expenditures of funds in educational areas not ordinarily covered by the school budget and in accordance with criteria in its bylaws. Members of the board of education and/or the administration (shall/shall not) serve on the board of directors of the educational foundation. Policies and regulations on gifts to the district shall apply to funds raised by the foundation.

The chief school administrator shall:

1. Counsel potential donors on the appropriateness of contemplated gifts and encourage such donors to choose as gifts supplies or equipment not likely to be purchased with public funds;
2. Encourage individuals and organizations considering a contribution to the schools to consult with the Principal or Superintendent before appropriating funds to that end;

- 3. Report to the Board all gifts that have been accepted on behalf of the Board;
- 4. Acknowledge the receipt of any gift accepted by the Board; and
- 5. Prepare fitting means for recognizing or memorializing gifts to the school district.

Date:

First Adoption: May 24, 2001

Review Date: January 4, 2009

Revision and Adoption: February 26, 2009

Review Date: December 19, 2010 – No Change

Legal References:

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| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:6-33.1 through -33.12 | Incentive Grants |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:18A-15.1 | Payment for goods or services; funds received from a bequest, legacy or gift |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:20-4 | Acceptance and use of gifts |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:20-11 through -16 | Property devised in trust |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:29A-1 through -7 | Governor's Annual Teacher Recognition Act |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71A-1 <u>et seq.</u> | Authority Structure and General Provisions |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71B-1 <u>et seq.</u> | Student Financial Aid |
| <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71C-1 <u>et seq.</u> | Student Loans |
| <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:26-7.4 | Approval of land acquisition |

Possible

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| Cross References: 1230 | School-connected organizations |
| 3200 | Income |
| 3220/3230 | State funds; federal funds |
| 3453 | School activity funds |
| 5126 | Awards for achievement |
| 6163.1 | Media center/library |

Key Words: Gifts, Grants, Bequests