

## **9700 - RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

Any request from civic institutions, charitable organizations, or special interest groups which involve such activities as patriotic functions, contests, exhibits, sales of products to and by students, sending promotional materials home with students, graduation prizes, fund raising, and free teaching materials must be carefully reviewed to ensure that such activities promote student interests without advancing the special interests of any particular group.

It is the policy of the School Board that students, staff members, and Corporation facilities not be used for advertising or promoting the interests of any nonschool agency or organization, public or private, without the approval of the Superintendent and any such approval, granted for whatever cause or group, shall not be construed as an endorsement of said cause or group by this Board.

### **A. Political/Commercial Interests**

All materials or activities proposed by outside political or commercial sources for student or staff use or participation shall be reviewed by the Superintendent on the basis of their educational contribution to part or all of the school program, and/or benefit to students, and no such approval shall have the primary purpose of advancing the name, product, or special interest of the proposing group.

The Board shall permit the use of educational materials, programs, and equipment which contains commercial messages providing the content of such messages and the manner of presentation has been approved by the Superintendent and is in compliance with the Corporation's administrative guidelines.

Outside speakers representing commercial organizations will be welcome only when the commercial aspect is limited to naming the organization represented and the subject matter advances the educational aims of the Corporation.

### **B. Contests/Exhibits**

The Board recognizes that contests, exhibits, and the like may benefit individual students or the Corporation as a whole, but participation in such special activities may not:

1. have the primary effect of advancing a special product, group, or company;
2. make unreasonable demands upon the time and energies of staff or students or upon the resources of the Corporation;
3. involve any direct cost to the Corporation.

**C. Distribution/Posting of Literature**

No outside organizations or staff member or student representing an outside organization may distribute or post literature on that organization's behalf on Corporation property either during or after school hours without the permission and prior review of the Superintendent.

**D. Solicitation of Funds**

The School Board will permit solicitation by students and school-sponsored organizations for charitable purposes.

Such solicitation activities benefitting outside organizations should be minimized. No approval shall be given for the solicitation of political contributions. Solicitation includes the use of school corporation email addresses.

Use of class time for solicitation activities should be minimized to ensure it does not interfere with the educational process.

**E. Sale of School Supplies**

In determining the appropriateness of the sale of school supplies by organizations other than the School Corporation, the Board requires that:

1. the organization have a purpose which will benefit the School Corporation and its students;
2. the organization's planned activities are clearly in the best interest of the School Corporation and its students.

All funds generated by the sale of such school supplies shall be kept separate from other activity funds or other transactions of the Board.

**F. Surveys and Questionnaires**

Neither Corporation-related nor noncorporation-related organizations shall be allowed to administer a survey or questionnaire to students or staff unless the instrument and the proposed plan is submitted, in advance, to the Superintendent. If approved in accordance with the Superintendent's criteria, a copy of the results and the proposed manner

of their communication are to be provided to the Superintendent for review and approval before they are released.