

FUNDRAISING BY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

No person or organization may solicit funds or sell merchandise on school property without prior permission from the superintendent. As a matter of policy, the board expects fundraising by outside organizations to be done outside the schools, school grounds or school sponsored activities.

No staff member, unless authorized by the superintendent, shall permit the subscription or collection of money on school premises, allow any article to be exhibited for the purposes of sale, or permit any person to enter the schools for the purpose of transacting private business. Special appeals in the classroom for charitable relief shall be permitted at the discretion of the superintendent and in accordance with board policy.

In accordance with state statute, candidates for public office and/or any agents of a candidate for public office are prohibited from soliciting and/or accepting any contributions while on school property unless the property has been made available for the exclusive use of the group for a non-governmental purpose as a meeting location. The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall have the jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of the statute for violations

Permission to solicit funds or sell merchandise will normally be granted only to those organizations or individuals who are raising funds for the schools and whose purposes are consistent with the goals of this district and the interest of the community. The superintendent shall specify when, where, and how solicitation may take place. He/she shall ensure this does not interfere with the orderly operation of the educational program.

There is no district obligation to allow fundraising. But if a forum is opened up to any category of group (i.e., non-profit, non-partisan, community groups), the superintendent will not discriminate against speech or materials on the basis of the group's viewpoint or religious orientation.

The determination of the superintendent will be viewpoint-neutral in order to provide equal access to "limited public forums" including bulletin boards for notices, tables at back-to-school nights, or hand-outs to students.

All fund raising materials will clearly indicate their source. Non-school-related fundraising will be plainly labeled, including an express disclaimer that the activity is "not a school-sponsored activity." Flyers and parental permission slips will be subject to the same review and standards.

The time, place and event for fund solicitation by non-profit organizations not sponsored by the district shall be determined by the superintendent or his/her designee.

The privilege to solicit funds may be revoked for all groups of that category at any time.

Funds solicited by organizations not sponsored by the district are not to be deposited in any regular or special accounts of the district. The board disclaims all responsibility for the protection of or accounting for such funds.

FUND RAISING BY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 Written approval required prior to acquisition of certain survey information from students
 N.J.S.A. 18A:42.4 Distribution of literature
 N.J.S.A. 19:44A-19.1 Campaign contributions for candidates on school
 N.J.S.A. 52:14-15.9cl et al. Public employee charitable fund-raising act
 Child Evangelism Fellowship of New Jersey vs. Stafford Township School District.
 No. 03-1101 (October 2004)

Cross References *1140 Distribution of materials by pupils and staff
 *1230 School-connected organizations
 *3453 School activity funds
 *5136 Fund-raising activities

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

Key Words

Soliciting, Selling, Fund Raising, Campaign Contributions

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