

## CLASS RINGS

Language in the State Constitution has long and consistently been held to prohibit the use of school premises or school district personnel for a commercial undertaking unless the activity has "a school purpose." The Board of Education has been advised that the Commissioner of Education has determined that where specified conditions are met the promotion and sale of class rings on school premises will be regarded as having a school purpose and will not be considered to violate the "gifts and loans" provision of the State Constitution. As a result of the Commissioner's determination, the Board of Education authorizes the promotion and sale of class rings for senior high school students. The following procedures are to be met:

- A. Any and all manufacturers, jewelry stores and other suppliers are to be given equal opportunity to seek class ring business. The high school principal will give notice in the official newspaper of the school district indicating the time, place and conditions for interested suppliers to be given an opportunity to present their rings and programs. This notice must be given at least 30 days in advance.
- B. The high school principal will create a student class ring committee which will advise the principal about the selection of the class ring supplier after it has analyzed the presentation of interested suppliers.
- C. Meetings of students with class ring company representatives will be held at convenient non-academic times such as during lunch hours or after school.
- D. The promotional aspects of class ring sales may include auditorium presentations, posters and ads in the high school newspaper.
- E. The high school principal may designate a teacher or other staff member who is involved with class activities to assist the students with the promotion, sale and delivery of class rings. No district staff member, however, may be compelled to assist in this regard.
- F. The high school principal will grant authorization to school ring company representatives to participate in school presentations or to distribute promotional material to students and parents.
- G. Actual sales may be conducted in the high school during non-academic times and school ring company representatives may assist students during the sale periods.

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- H. Delivery and distribution of rings must be made in the high school during non-academic times as regulated by the school principal. Distribution may be made at an "event" such as a dance or ceremony.

An amount equal to twenty (20%) percent of the deposits on rings made by the students, shall be held in a separate escrow account naming the school district as escrow agent. This escrow account shall be established to ensure that the school ring company complies with all of its contractual obligations with respect to delivery of the rings and with respect to subsequent student complaints which may arise. The account shall be interest bearing and, upon full compliance by the school ring company with its contractual obligations, the school district shall release the funds to the company.

This policy shall become effective with the commencement of class ring sales for the high school graduating Class of 1988.

Policy Adopted:  
February 16, 1987

Policy Revised:  
December 16, 1991

Policy Reviewed:  
March 8, 2001