

Community Relations

Partnerships - Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

I. Purpose

This policy defines the relationship between the school district and parent organizations and booster clubs.

II. General Statement of Policy

Parent organizations and booster clubs assist in promoting the mission and objectives of school district programs. The district recognizes the important role parent organizations and booster clubs play in enhancing programs that serve students' needs. The district affirms its appreciation for parent organizations and booster clubs.

III. Definitions

- A. A "parent organization or booster club" is one or more individuals, in whatever form organized, for the purpose of promoting the mission, goals, and objectives of the school district and/or a specified program or event sponsored by the district (e.g., parent/teacher organizations, sport or activity supporters, parents supporting captains of activities).
- B. "Specified program or event sponsored by the district" includes, but is not limited to, individual classes operated by the district, district extracurricular and co-curricular programs, or district-sponsored athletics, fine arts, and activities.
- C. "Fundraising activity" is a program or event conducted by, or on behalf of, a parent organization or booster club that has the primary purpose of raising money for the use of or donation by the parent organization or booster club.

IV. Separate Entity

- A. Parent organizations and booster clubs are separate and distinct from the school district. A district employee may not, while acting in the employee's capacity as a district employee, exert any control over or direct the operations of a parent organization or booster club. This section does not prohibit district employees from becoming members of, or participating in, parent organizations or booster clubs.
- B. The district will not contribute, donate, lend, or otherwise give monetary support to a parent organization or booster club.

V. Access to District Property

Parent organizations and booster clubs are permitted to access school district property to the same extent, and for the same purposes as any other type of organization or individual, as outlined in district policy.

VI. Volunteers

Members of parent organizations and booster clubs may volunteer to provide services to the school district to the same extent as other individuals who serve as volunteers.

VII. Acceptance of Gifts and Donations

- A. Any donation by parent organizations or booster clubs to or for the benefit of the school district and district-sponsored programs and events must be submitted for acceptance by the district in accordance with district policy. The district may refuse to accept a gift or donation for any reason.
- B. A district employee or volunteer, including coaches and volunteer coaches, may not accept, solicit, or receive a gift or donation from a parent organization, booster club, or individual member of these entities, except as stated in this policy.
- C. District employees and volunteers may only accept gifts or donations of limited value, as permitted by district policy. These limited value gifts may include those gifts given to coaches or activities supervisors for end-of-year celebrations. The superintendent has the discretion to determine what value is "limited."
- D. A district employee or volunteer, including coaches and volunteer coaches, may not accept, solicit, or receive a salary, stipend, or other payment, whether in the form of cash or otherwise, from a parent organization, booster club, or an individual member of these entities for the performance or nonperformance of any act or service that constitutes any portion of the responsibilities of the district employee or district volunteer. This prohibition specifically includes, but is not limited to, payments intended to reimburse the employee or volunteer for expenses incurred while performing the employee's or volunteer's duties as a district employee or district volunteer.

VIII. Events and Activities

- A. All district-sponsored activities and events remain under the school district's exclusive control and direction despite funding for that activity or event provided by a parent organization or booster club.

- B. All parent organization or booster club activities or events remain under the exclusive control and direction of that entity, except to the extent that the district is authorized to regulate the use of its property and conduct on its property. The district and district employees will not assert any control over, or otherwise direct, an event or activity sponsored or conducted by a parent organization or booster club.

Cross References:

Policy 421 (Gifts to Employees and School Board Members)

Policy 709 (Acceptance of Gifts, Donations, and Bequests)

Policy 801 (Equal Access by Students to School Facilities)

Policy 902 (Use of School District Facilities and Equipment)

Policy

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INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273

Edina, Minnesota