MERCHANTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION 130 South Centre Street Merchantville, New Jersey 08109	File Code: 1322 Proposed: Adopted: 9/27/88 Revised: 06/19/17 Reviewed: 03/18/2024

Contests For Pupils

The chief school administrator shall approve participation in extracurricular contests sponsored by organizations outside the schools, as long as participation does not interfere with the instructional program. When such contests involve promotional aid, school time, or faculty assistance to pupils in essay writing, poster making, or other activities, the chief school administrator shall determine whether the experiences are closely enough allied to and in support of the instructional work of the school and will clearly serve to advance the educational aims of the district. The worthiness of the sponsoring agency's cause or the opportunity for individuals to win prizes shall not in themselves constitute sufficient reason for approving a contest.

Contests and awards whether local, state, or national shall be:

A. For the benefit of the pupil;

B. Open to all pupils regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age or sex;

C. Consistent with district objectives;

D. Judged by disinterested parties;

E. Properly supervised with safety precautions in place;

F. Voluntary for pupils and teachers.

Contests and awards shall not place undue time or financial burdens on pupils, teachers and parents. They shall not promote commercial products or partisan viewpoints. Participation shall not be dependent on the financial status of the pupil.

Legal References:

N.J.S.A.	18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.S.A.	18A:42-2	School orchestra not to compete with civilian
N.J.S.A.	18A:54-20	Powers of board (county vocational schools)

Possible Cross References:

1314	Fundraising by outside organizations
1320	Participation in out-of-school community activities
3280	Gifts, grants and bequests
5126	Awards for achievement
6145	Extracurricular activities
6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
6145.4	Public performances and exhibitions
6153	Field trips