

GIFTS, GRANTS, MEMORIALS, AND BEQUESTS TO THE DISTRICT

The Region 10 School District recognizes that the loss of a student or staff member is deeply felt in the school and community. The District also recognizes the desire of individuals and groups to memorialize the life of the deceased as part of the grieving and healing process. While remaining sensitive to the impact of a death in the schools, the District must take steps to ensure memorials are appropriate and consistent across the District. The District recognizes that decisions made about memorials immediately after a traumatic event may not take into full consideration the potential impact on students, staff, and community members.

I. ACCEPTABLE MEMORIALS AND EVENTS

- A. The following are ways in which the District and its students and staff can honor the memory of a deceased student or staff person associated with Region 10.
 - 1. Scholarships established in the name of the deceased student or staff
 - 2. Donations to a charity or program in the name of the deceased student or staff
 - 3. A sympathy card from the school, possibly signed by students and staff, and flowers for the funeral
 - 4. Appropriate activities to promote healing may be conducted with the approval of the Superintendent
 - 5. Students are not prohibited from organizing an event that is strictly student-sponsored and student/parent-led, intended to honor or memorialize a deceased student or staff, provided the event or activity does not disrupt the school day and does not occur during school hours, and must be approved by the Superintendent

II. UNACCEPTABLE MEMORIALS OR EVENTS

- A. Due to the disruption of the educational environment, the unintended consequences to the psychological well-being of students and staff, and/or the inequity of failing to honor other deceased students or staff, the following are prohibited as memorials in honor of deceased students or staff:

1. School-sponsored activities or events in honor of deceased students or staff
2. Funerals on school property
3. Memorials that require the altering of school property, including planting trees, memorial benches or monuments, and gardens
4. Memorials that require public funds to purchase, develop, or maintain
5. Memorials that include plaques attached to any object or part of the building on school property (an exception would be for veteran's memorials presented with District approval by recognized veteran groups to commemorate members of the armed forces lost in combat.)
6. Placing notices on outdoor message boards
7. Memorials on school websites or school social media accounts
8. School-sponsored wearing or memorial apparel such as t-shirts, armbands, or sweatshirts. This does not prohibit students from wearing memorial apparel, provided any organized wearing of apparel is not sponsored or promoted by the school
9. Creating banners
10. Dedicating publications, dances, and activities
11. Parents distributing memorial apparel to students and staff at school during school hours

III. DONATIONS INVOLVING SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Region 10 School District values the generosity and support of its Parent Teacher Organizations, families, community organizations, and other individuals and groups whose contributions enhance the educational experience of our students.

To ensure that donations involving physical changes to District buildings or grounds are consistent with District priorities and are appropriately reviewed for feasibility, safety, maintenance, and long-term impact, the following procedures shall apply to any proposed donation that would alter or add to District facilities or grounds. Such donations may include, but are not limited to, signage, murals, playground equipment, recreational structures, and other permanent installations.

A. Proposal and Review Process

1. Initial Proposal: The donating individual or group shall meet with the school principal to discuss the proposed donation, its intended purpose, and its potential impact on the school community.

2. Superintendent Notification: The school principal shall inform the Superintendent of Schools of the proposed donation and provide relevant details for further consideration.

3. District Review: A meeting shall be held with the donating individual or group, the Superintendent of Schools, and relevant members of the District leadership team, including the Director of Finance and Operations and the Director of Facilities and Maintenance, to review the proposal. This review shall consider the project's scope, feasibility, safety, installation requirements, financial implications, ongoing maintenance, and alignment with District priorities.

4. Facilities Subcommittee Review: Following the District's review, the proposed donation plan shall be presented to the Facilities Subcommittee of the Board of Education for its consideration and recommendation.

5. Board of Education Approval: Upon a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Subcommittee, the proposed donation shall be presented to the full Board of Education for its consideration and approval.

B. Final Approval and Implementation

No installation, construction, or physical alteration of District buildings or grounds associated with a proposed donation shall begin until the donation has received final approval from the Board of Education.

All approved donations shall be implemented in coordination with District administration and in accordance with applicable District policies and regulations.

This process does not supersede the restrictions on memorials established in Section II of this regulation.

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