STUDENT FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes that inherent in many fund-raising activities are educational benefits to students.

However, the Board is aware that, if allowed, fund-raising activities can be undesirable incursions into the instructional program. In addition, certain of these activities can impose upon some students and their parents/guardians an unreasonable expenditure of funds, with consequent financial hardship or embarrassment to the student.

Fund-raising activities which include arrangements with a commercial interest must be kept to a minimum. Administrators must seek permission from the Superintendent or designee before entering into any agreement for fund raising with any individual, group or enterprise. The promotion of private enterprise through direct sales in the schools is prohibited.

Only those organizations granted approval by the Board of Education shall have permission to solicit donations and contributions from students.

All fund-raising activities must be voluntary, and no direct solicitation of students is permitted on school premises during school hours. However, the Board will allow the following forms of indirect solicitation:

1. the sale of goods, services, or tickets to an event (social, musical, athletic, etc.), where a portion of the funds go to a charitable purpose;
2. the recruitment of students during school hours to participate in fund-raising activities to be conducted off school premises and/or when school is not in session. School personnel are permitted to hang posters or distribute flyers notifying students of these activities. However, school personnel may not act as a conduit and collect funds from students on behalf of a charity for which they recruited; and
3. the placement of a bin or collection box in a hallway or other common area for the voluntary donation of food, clothing or money.

Off School Premises

Fund-raising projects in which students canvass the public off school grounds, in connection with school events and school-connected fund-raising activities, will be kept to an absolute minimum. Elementary students are not permitted to solicit funds on a door to door basis.

Ref: NYS Constitution, Article 8 §1
Education Law §414
8 NYCRR §§ 19.6 (Rules of the Board of Regents); 172.1 et seq.
Appeal of Ponte, 38 EDR 280 (1998)
Guidelines Relating to Solicitation of Charitable Donations from School Children, SED, January 1994

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