
GIFTS, GRANTS AND BEQUESTS

Only the board of education may accept for the school district any bequest or gift of money, property or goods, except that the Superintendent may accept on behalf of the board any such gift of less than \$100.00 in value in accordance with the following procedures:

1. The donor must submit a written request for approval in advance to the building principal, specifying the gift.
2. Any gift with a value of more than \$100 per item or \$1,000 in aggregate, or any gift or donation which deals with modifications to school district buildings or grounds, must be submitted in advance by the Building Principal who will submit to the Superintendent for Board of Education approval.
3. The board reserves the right to refuse to accept any gift which does not contribute toward the achievement of the goals of this district or the ownership of which would tend to deplete the resources of the district.
4. Any gift must meet all applicable legal criteria, e.g. Affirmative Action and Title IX. For athletics, contributions must meet the guidelines and requirements of the NJ State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA).
5. Any gift accepted by the board or the Superintendent shall become the property of the board, may not be returned without the approval of the board, and is subject to the same controls and regulations as are other properties of the board. The board shall be responsible for the maintenance of any gift it accepts.
6. The board will make every effort to honor the intent of the donor in its use of the gift, but reserves the right to utilize any gift it accepts in the best interest of the educational program of the district.
7. In no case shall acceptance of a gift be considered to be an endorsement by the board of a commercial product or business enterprise or institution of learning.

The board reserves the right to refuse to accept any gift that does not contribute to the achievement of district goals or could deplete the resources of the district.

Any gift accepted by the board or the Superintendent shall become the property of the board, may not be returned without the approval of the board, and is subject to the same controls and regulations as are other properties of the board. The board shall be responsible for the maintenance of any gift it accepts.

GIFTS, GRANTS AND BEQUESTS (continued)

The board will make every effort to honor the intent of the donor in its use of the gift, but reserves the right to use any gift it accepts in the best interest of the educational program of the district. In no case shall acceptance of a gift be considered to be an endorsement by the board of a commercial product or business enterprise or institution of learning.

Grants

Staff members are encouraged to seek out sources of grants and gifts, and bring them to the attention of the Superintendent, who shall investigate the conditions of such grants and make recommendations to the board regarding the advisability of seeking them.

NOTE: THIS PARAGRAPH IS APPROPRIATE FOR DISTRICTS WITH AN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.

Educational Foundation

An educational foundation shall be created for the purpose of soliciting and raising monetary gifts and donations for the school district. This foundation shall be governed by a board of directors that shall recommend expenditures of funds in educational areas not ordinarily covered by the school budget and in accordance with criteria in its bylaws. Members of the board of education and/or the administration (shall/shall not) serve on the board of directors of the educational foundation. Policies and regulations on gifts to the district shall apply to funds raised by the foundation.

Date: **Reviewed: May 17, 2000; May 15, 2002; January 21, 2004; January 19, 2011**
Readopted: May 17, 2000; January 15, 2004; March 23, 2011

Legal References: Use legal reference sheet.

Cross References: List your appropriate policies. See legal reference sheet for possibilities.

Key Words

Gifts, Grants, Bequests

Legal References

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Other Reasons:

It is advisable to have a policy that establishes the board's philosophy on accepting gifts and bequests to the district.

Recommendation:

A policy establishing the board as the only authority to accept gifts, with the possible exception of the chief school administrator. Any restrictions or stipulations should be included in this policy.

If the board wishes to encourage staff to seek grants from outside sources, or if the district has an educational foundation, address it here.

<u>Legal References:</u>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:6-33.1	Incentive Grants
	through -33.12	
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:18A-15.1	Payment for goods or services; funds received from a bequest, legacy or gift
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:20-4	Acceptance and use of gifts
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:20-11	
	through -16	Property devised in trust
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:29A-1	
	through -7	Governor's Annual Teacher Recognition Act
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Authority Structure and General Provisions
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71B-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Student Financial Aid
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:71C-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Student Loans
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:26-7.4	Approval of land acquisition

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u>	*1230	School-connected organizations
	3200	Income
	*3220/3230	State funds; federal funds
	*3453	School activity funds
	*5126	Awards for achievement
	*6163.1	Media center/library

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

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