

Policy 26

FUNDRAISING

BACKGROUND

The New Westminster Board of Education believes school/student fundraising can contribute to the advancement of education in the school district. The District recognizes that schools often require additional funds, which are not provided by the District or Ministry of Education and Child Care to enrich student programs and activities and District facilities and grounds. The District takes the position that the basic instructional materials and resources required to provide the prescribed curriculum of instruction are to be provided by government revenues, and are not to be dependent upon District or school staff, or Parent Advisory Council (PAC) fundraising activities. The board believes the types of fundraising undertaken, the conduct of the activity, and the management of funds realized and financial accountability should be ethical, in harmony with the goals of public education and utilizing sound financial and business management practices.

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophies behind this fundraising policy are to ensure that:

- The District supports appropriate fundraising activities by schools and PACs which are designed to enhance educational programs and activities.
- The school's PAC is given the opportunity to participate in and support planning and allocating monies raised from school fundraising activities;
- Funds raised are expended in accordance with the purposes stated and/or budgets and that those involved in the fundraising are informed of how the funds are to be expended;
- Proceeds of fundraising are not to be intended to be used to create major inequities from school to school;
- Funds raised are to be directed to the benefit of students and are not to be accumulated other than for specific projects/purposes; and
- Funds raised in the name of the school and for the benefit of the school community, are managed in accordance with administrative procedures regarding the appropriate accountability and management of public funds.

PRINCIPLES

1. Fundraising may be conducted only for the purposes of the general welfare, education or morale of the students in the school. The purpose for which funds are raised must be clear and, in addition, should preferably be for enhancements of curricular and extra-curricular activities.
2. The specific purpose of a fundraising project must be known to all the organizers, workers and persons from whom support is sought. The purpose of the funds raised must be sufficiently specific and must not be so broad in nature that they could be used for any type of school activity.

3. The fundraised proceeds shall not be utilized for the hiring of staff or the provision of programs or activities in schools which require continuity.
4. The Board intends to foster cooperative relationships with PACs to serve the best interests of students. Each school principal has the primary responsibility for and authority to conduct school/student fundraising done in the name of the school as guided under Administrative Procedure 520 *Fundraising and Coordination of Fundraising with Parent Advisory Councils (PACs)*.
5. Fundraising is to be accomplished by voluntary not-for-profit efforts.
6. Fundraising activities and their conduct must be consistent with the goals of public education, in good taste and comply with the law.
 - a. Incentives which encourage student competition in fundraising should be discouraged.
 - b. Competitive sales campaigns which use financial or material incentives, which place pressure on student sellers should not be used.
 - c. The raising of money is generally to be limited to functions at the school or those sponsored by the school at other locations. House-to-house canvassing and solicitation at business establishments and shopping centres is strongly discouraged for student safety reasons.
 - d. The use of instructional time and resources for fundraising is to be avoided.
7. Funds raised are to be expended for the purpose for which they were raised.
8. Funds raised are to be directed to the benefit of students and are not to be accumulated other than for specific projects as supported by plans or budgets.

Reference: Sections 8, 8.4, 8.5, 20, 22, 23, 65, 85 School Act

SD No. 40 (New Westminster)

Adopted: October 29, 2024