

GIFTS FROM THE PUBLIC

It shall be the policy of the district to accept a gift, provided it is made within the statutory authority granted to school districts and has received the approval of the Board of Education.

Except as noted below, the Superintendent of Schools and others designated by the Board are authorized to accept gifts to the school on the Board's behalf. All such gifts must be reported to the Board.

Exceptions: Certain gifts must be accepted directly by the Board of Education. These include: (1) proposals of gifts with an estimated value of \$5,000 or more of real property; or (2) gifts, regardless of their value, which could be controversial or which contain any restrictions. Any staff member who receives such a proposal shall report it to the Superintendent for presentation to the Board.

In determining whether or not to accept a proposed gift, the Board will consider whether the costs of the gift outweigh its benefit to the school district.

The gift and acceptance of books and magazines shall be governed by the same procedures and standards as are applicable to the selection of library books and supplementary materials.

If a gift is accepted, the donor will be officially thanked in the Board's name and a public announcement will be made, where appropriate. In the case of the gift of money, a receipt or tax-deduction note shall be given to the donor. In the case of gifts of equipment or property, the donor will be given a receipt describing the gift and the item(s) will be listed in the district's inventory of fixed assets.

Unrestricted gifts become district property and will be subject to the same controls and regulations that govern other school-owned property.

Restricted gifts, if accepted, will be applied in accordance with the donor's restrictions. The school attorney shall review any alternative plans for legal validity.

Any gift rejected by the Board shall be returned to the donor or his/her estate within 60 days together with a statement indicating the reasons for the rejection of such gift.

Cross-ref: 5800, Student Awards and Scholarships

Ref: Education Law §1709(12)