

SOLICITATIONS/SELLING AND FUNDRAISING

The school committee will place limits on solicitations and fundraising activities in the schools for the following reasons:

1. The school system should provide students, parents/guardians, and employees some measure of protection from exploitation by fundraising organizations.
2. The school system should not give the public the impression of generally endorsing or sanctioning fundraising activities.
3. Fundraising activities should not disrupt school routine and cause loss of instructional time.

In addition, the following restrictions regarding public solicitations and selling goods in the schools will apply:

1. No direct solicitation of students, selling goods to students, or general or class distribution of commercial literature to students may take place without school committee permission.
2. No direct solicitation of employees or parents/guardians, selling goods to employees or parents/guardians, or general or class distribution of commercial literature to employees or parents/guardians may take place without permission from the building principal and superintendent.

Fundraising will only be allowed by individuals and organizations with the advanced approval of the Acushnet School Committee. When presenting to the committee, the purpose, method of raising money, and the intended use of the money must be explicitly stated. The request should be submitted at least two months in advance of the activity.

Exceptions to the rule of advanced approval by the school committee for fundraising, selling goods, and solicitations are as follows:

- 1) Charitable fundraisers that have historically been conducted, such as Daffodil Days, Neediest Families Fund Drive, United Way, and holiday food and toy drives.
- 2) Charitable fundraisers and the sale of goods involving employees only.
- 3) Charitable fundraisers/donations that do not require the collection of monies or the sale of goods.
- 4) Sale of tickets to scheduled athletic events, school dramatic and musical performances, and other school-sponsored, PTO-sponsored, and town-sponsored events that directly involve and benefit students.

- 5). The sale of foods and beverages and non-food items by non-profit organizations. Please note that these organizations may not serve prepared foods that are not pre-packaged without approval from the Acushnet Board of Health unless the food is prepared with a ServSafe certified cafeteria worker present. In the latter case, scheduling of the cafeteria worker to cover the special detail is subject to availability. Please note that in all cases where food that is unpackaged is handled, the servers are required to wear gloves.
- 6) Acushnet Alumni Association Scholarship Committee and Acushnet Teachers Association Scholarship fundraisers.
- 7) Book fairs and the sale of items via the School Store or by the PTO and PTO fundraisers.
- 8) Non-profit Acushnet-based community organizations soliciting students to promote participation in a program that is consistent with the district's objectives, procedures, and policies and benefits Acushnet students.
- 9) Town-sponsored fundraisers and the sale of items at town-sponsored events.
- 10) School-sponsored fundraisers that have been previously approved by the school committee, that do not require the collection of monies, and directly benefit students (example: collection of Box Tops, department or grocery store receipt programs, etc.)

All of the above exceptions will be permitted with the advanced approval of the building principal and superintendent or his/her designee.

School photography contracts will be subject to approval by the principal and business manager.

All money collections earned from school-sponsored fundraisers, admission to activities or events, or items sold at activities or events or during school must be turned over to the building principal on the day of the activity or event or the next business day. The building principal shall record and submit money collections to the business manager for subsequent deposit.

If the superintendent disapproves of a fundraiser, the non-profit Acushnet-based community organization may appeal the decision to the school committee.

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 44:53A

CROSS REFS: IML- Notices from Schools; JP- Student Gifts and Solicitations; KHB- Advertising in the Schools

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