

## **STUDENT FUNDRAISING AND PUBLIC SOLITICATION**

In general, the School Committee disapproves of fundraising in the community by students, parents/guardians, family and school staff for school activities. Especially discouraged is the sale of goods produced by companies for profit, such as magazines, candy, and similar items. The School Committee prohibits partnerships with commercial enterprises that promote the enterprise in conjunction with school fundraising. Additionally, the School Committee places limits on fundraising activities and public solicitation of students and staff within schools for the following reasons:

1. The school district should provide students, parents/guardians, families and employees some measure of protection from exploitation by commercial and charitable fundraising organizations.
2. The school district should not give the public the impression of generally endorsing or sanctioning commercial and fundraising activities.
3. Commercial and fundraising activities may disrupt school routine and cause loss of instructional time.
4. Professional fundraising organizations that raise funds for a fee shall not be utilized.
5. The use of the school district website, school district and/or individual school stationery and the use of school and an individual's school email addresses for the solicitation for fundraising activities and public solicitations is prohibited in accordance with the Cambridge Public Schools Acceptable Use Policy. The only exceptions to this prohibition, subject to the approval by the Superintendent are school clubs, teams or groups conducting fundraising for a field trip or school-sponsored trip in accordance with the Cambridge Public Schools Field Trip Policy and the provisions of this policy.

Following these guiding statements, the Superintendent and principals may permit the following occasional fundraising activities related to the objectives of the schools:

1. Sale of tickets to scheduled athletic events and school dramatic and musical performances are permitted.
2. Sale of advertising space in school publications in accordance with the provisions of this policy and the Cambridge Public Schools Advertising in Schools Policy is permitted.
3. Proposals to raise funds for charitable purposes or for benefit of the school or community (for example: scholarship funds, disaster relief or humane causes) provided such proposals have been individually approved by the building principal and the Superintendent. In these cases, fundraising proposals must be student rather than parent/guardian, family or staff driven.
4. Fundraising for field trips and school trips in accordance with the provisions of this policy and the Cambridge Public Schools Field Trip Policy.

No money collections of any kind may be held in the schools without the specific consent of the Superintendent. Further, the School Committee recognizes that student fundraising

efforts should not be the responsibility of teachers and/or other school staff.

For purposes of this policy, local PTA and PTO groups, school councils and groups representing school system employees will be considered “school groups” and will be governed by the School Committee’s policy on Gifts and Solicitations by Staff. Whenever fundraising is conducted, no pressure will be exerted to obtain contributions even though the drive is one that has been approved.

*Adopted: July 28, 2009*