

SUBJECT: BOOSTER CLUBS

The Board of Education recognizes the following Booster Organizations that support staff and students PK through 12. They are:

- a) Athletic Booster Club
- b) Academic Booster Club
- c) Music Booster Club
- d) ALES PTO

The Board of Education recognizes that “booster” organizations or other related organizations may be created to promote community support and to raise funds for specific school activities or programs. These groups must receive official Board approval and may not discriminate on the basis of sex, color, national origin, ethnic background, sexual orientation, disability, religion or any other arbitrary criteria. The Board of Education, at its discretion, may dissolve any Booster Club organization for failure to comply with the District’s Booster Club Policy.

Rules and regulations will be established to govern the activities of booster clubs and other related organizations. The Board further requires that:

- a) Financial records be maintained and available upon request, for the Board and other public inspection;
- b) Notify the appropriate principal in advance of fundraising activities;
- c) Groups wishing to make a contribution adhere to the District’s policy and regulations regarding the acceptance of gifts; and
- d) The Board of Education retains final responsibility and authority on all activities that have an impact on students, school programs and/or school owned property.

Violations to District policies or regulations may result in the dissolution of the club or organization.

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Booster Clubs or related organizations must follow these guidelines:

- a) Be voluntary, inclusive and support a specific school activity.
- b) Provide the Superintendent a yearly list of members and officers by November 1 (or in cases of new organizations being formed, list must be submitted within 30 days or electing officers).
- c) Submit a tentative activity schedule to the Superintendent or designee.
- d) Obtain prior approval of the Superintendent or designee any time the booster club uses the name of the School District, or language that the School District has endorsed or otherwise approved the activity.
- e) Maintain financial records and submit a yearly report by July 31.
- f) The Board of Education requires these organizations to establish bylaws, rules and procedures to elect officers, conduct business, and submit a copy of such to the District Clerk.
- g) Assume all financial responsibility for their organization, including, but not limited to, the provision of adequate insurance coverage, as appropriate.
- h) Understand and respect the authority of District employees in the administration of their duties.
- i) Items purchased for students must be approved in advance by a committee comprised of: principal (based on age group involved), Superintendent or designee, teacher/advisor/coach of sport/activity involved.

Title IX Compliance

The School District has a responsibility under Title IX to ensure that boys' and girls' programs are provided with equivalent benefits, treatment, services and opportunities regardless of their source. When determining equivalency, benefits, services and opportunities attained through the use of private funds (e.g., "booster clubs"), such funds are considered in combination with all benefits, services and opportunities.

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Private fundraising, including student-initiated fundraising, is permissible under Title IX. Further, compliance with Title IX does not mean that teams must “share” proceeds from fundraising activities. It does, however, place a responsibility on the District to ensure that benefits, services, treatment and opportunities overall, regardless of funding sources, are equivalent for male and female athletes.

In accordance with the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in order for the District to be in continuing compliance with Title IX requirements, the District must assure that services, benefits and opportunities in its athletic programs are provided on an equivalent basis to both boys and girls, including those services, benefits and opportunities that are provided through the use of outside financial assistance such as donations, fundraising and booster clubs.