Gifts, Grants and Bequests

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education may accept any gift, grant, or bequest of money, property, or service to the County Office of Education from any individual, organization, foundation, or public or private agency that desires to support the County Office of Education’s educational program. While greatly appreciating suitable donations, the Board shall reject any gift which may directly or indirectly impair its authority to make decisions in the best interest of Santa Cruz County Office of Education students or its ability or commitment to provide equitable educational opportunities.

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)
(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 0415 - Equity)
(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)
(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Before accepting any gift, grant, or bequest, the Board shall carefully consider any conditions or restrictions imposed by the donor to ensure their consistency with the County Office of Education’s vision, philosophy, and operations. If the Board believes the County Office of Education will be unable to fully satisfy the donor’s conditions, the gift shall not be accepted.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)

In addition, the Board shall ensure that acceptance of the gift, grant, or bequest does not:

1. Involve creation of a program which the Board would be unable to sustain when the donation is exhausted

2. Entail undesirable or excessive costs

3. Promote the use of violence, drugs, tobacco, or alcohol

(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)

4. Advertise or endorse the use of non-nutritious food or beverages during the school day

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

5. Encourage or enable the violation of any law or County Board policy

Adopted: September 17, 2020
6. Imply endorsement of any business or product or unduly commercialize or politicize the school environment

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)

Any gift of books or instructional materials may only be accepted if they meet Santa Cruz County Board of Education criteria for selection of instructional materials.

(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)

All gifts, grants, and bequests shall become County Office of Education property. Donors are encouraged to donate all gifts to the County Office of Education rather than to a particular school, classroom, or teacher. At the Superintendent or designee's discretion, a gift may be used at a particular school or classroom.

When any gift of money received by the County Office of Education is not immediately used, it shall be placed in the county treasury in accordance with law. (Education Code 41030-41031)

(cf. 3430 - Investing)

Corporate Sponsorship

The Board may enter into an agreement or arrangement with an outside entity for the sponsorship of an educational, athletic, or other program or activity. When appropriate, the agreement may allow the outside entity to advertise or promote its business, product, or service in County Office of Education publications or on County Office of Education property or web sites.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Every sponsorship agreement shall be in writing. The agreement shall ensure that the County Office of Education’s relationship and arrangement with the sponsor are consistent with the County Office of Education’s mission, values, and goals. Any advertising or promotional message, image, or other depiction to be used by the sponsor shall meet the standards set for commercial advertising on County Office of Education property and in County Office of Education-sponsored publications in accordance with BP 1325 - Advertising and Promotion.

Each sponsorship agreement shall contain statements including, but not limited to:

1. The purpose of the relationship with the sponsor, details of the benefits to the County Office of Education, and how the benefits will be distributed

Adopted: September 17, 2020
2. The duration of the agreement and the roles, expectations, rights, and responsibilities of the County Office of Education and the sponsor, including whether and to what extent the sponsor is allowed to advertise or promote its products and/or services

3. The authority of the Superintendent to retain exclusive right over the use of the COE’s name, logo, and other proprietary information and the requirement that the sponsor obtain prior approval of the Board before using such information

4. The prohibition against the collection or distribution of students' personal information except as allowed by law

5. The authority of the Superintendent to terminate the agreement without any penalty or sanction to the County Office of Education if the sponsor's message, business, or product becomes inconsistent with the County Office of Education’s vision, mission, or goals or the sponsor engages in any prohibited activity

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)
(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Online Fundraising

Any person or entity who wishes to conduct an online fundraising campaign, including a crowdfunding campaign, for the benefit of the County Office of Education, a school, or a classroom shall submit a written request for prior approval to the Superintendent or designee. Approval of requests shall take into consideration compatibility with the County Office of Education’s vision and goals, core beliefs, instructional priorities, and infrastructure; the manner in which donations are collected and distributed; equity of the use of funds; and any other factors deemed relevant or appropriate by the County Office of Education.

Any person or entity approved to conduct an online fundraising campaign shall comply with relevant County Office of Education policies and procedures, including ensuring financial transparency in describing the purpose and use of the funds and protecting student privacy as applicable. Such person or entity shall specify that the County Office of Education, rather than a staff member, classroom, or school, will own the funded resources.

Funds raised by an online fundraising campaign and donated to the County Office of Education shall be subject to the same terms, criteria for acceptance, and accountability measures as any other donation as specified in this policy.

Appreciation

The Board may show appreciation for any donation to the County Office of Education in any manner it deems appropriate. Such appreciation may take the form of letters of recognition or Board resolutions; plaques, commendations, or awards; planting of commemorative trees or gardens; or naming or renaming of buildings, grounds, or facilities. Conferment of any such honor shall be in accordance with applicable Board policy.

Adopted: September 17, 2020
(cf. 1150 - Commendations and Awards)
(cf. 7310 - Naming of Facility)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
1834 Acquisition of materials and apparatus
35160 Powers and duties
35162 Power to sue, be sued, hold and convey property
41030 School district may invest surplus monies from bequest or gifts
41031 Special fund or account in county treasury
41032 Authority of school board to accept gift or bequest; investments; gift of land requirements
41035 Advisory committee
41036 Function of advisory committee
41037 Rules and regulations
41038 Applicability of other provisions of chapter

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

Adopted: September 17, 2020