

The board encourages individuals and organizations to consider making a ~~gift or bequest~~ donation of real property, personal property, or funds to the school system. ~~Such gifts~~ Donations, whether in the form of a gift or a bequest, foster community support for the schools and improve the school system for the benefit of students and others. As an expression of the board's gratitude, the superintendent shall provide for the appropriate recognition of donors.

A. SUITABILITY OF DONATIONS

~~Upon receiving notification of a donor's intent to offer a gift to a school, a principal shall give written notification to the superintendent that states the nature of the gift and the purpose for which it is donated. The superintendent shall ensure that any offered gift imposes no undue financial burden or obligation on the school system.~~

The superintendent shall evaluate any donation offers in order to determine whether the donation is suitable for the school or the school system ~~of gifts or bequests that are not revenues or gifts of nominal value.~~ Donations may not conflict with the school system's educational mission. In determining the suitability of a donation intended to benefit any program that is appropriately segregated by gender, such as a school athletic program, the superintendent must consider equity and Title IX issues in relation to overall funding and opportunities for participation.

Donations of real or personal property will be accepted only if the donor can demonstrate that he or she has clear and free title to the property. The superintendent also must consider the gift's suitability, any safety hazards associated with gifts of real or personal property, and the cost of maintaining the gift, and then make a recommendation to the board. Donations must not impose any undue financial burden or obligation on the school system. Any donation that includes advertisements must be consistent with policy 5240, Advertising in the Schools, and the food and beverage marketing requirements of policy 6140, Student Wellness.

For computer equipment or other technological resources, the superintendent shall ensure that such items are compatible with minimum hardware and software standards set by the technology officer. Any donation from an E-rate service provider must comply with gift rules applicable to federal agencies. ~~The board will decide whether to accept the gift on behalf of the school system.~~

~~The board establishes the following conditions for the acceptance of gifts. Other conditions may be set as the board deems appropriate.~~

B. ACCEPTING DONATIONS

Upon receiving an offer of a donation to the school, a principal must give the superintendent written notification that states the nature of the donation and the purpose for which it is donated. The principal does not have the authority to accept donations to the school.

The superintendent may accept donations up to \$5,000 on behalf of the board. The superintendent shall report any accepted donations of more than a nominal value at the next board meeting. The board reserves the right to determine in each particular case the appropriateness of a donation and may accept or reject a donation as the board sees fit.

The superintendent shall make a recommendation to the board on the suitability of any donation with a value that exceeds \$5,000. After considering the superintendent's recommendation, the board will decide whether to accept the donation.

C. USE OF DONATIONS

Unless otherwise specified in a written agreement approved by the board, any accepted donation, including a capital improvement to school property, becomes the permanent property of the school system. Anything purchased with donated funds, including funds raised through a crowdfunding campaign, project, or platform, become the property of the school system, and the title to such property vests in the board. If the board at any time determines that property donated, or acquired with donated funds, is unnecessary or undesirable for public school purposes, the board may dispose of such property in accordance with state law.

- ~~1. Gifts of real or personal property will be accepted only if the donor can demonstrate that he or she has clear and free title to the property.~~

The donor may request that a ~~donation~~gift or bequest be designated for ~~use in~~ a particular ~~purpose~~area. However, the board reserves the right to utilize the ~~donation~~funds as ~~it~~ deemed appropriate. Any donation constituting revenues will be deposited in the proper account.

The specific manner in which donated funds are expended ~~for within~~ a designated ~~purpose~~area will be determined under the direction of the superintendent.

- ~~2. A gift must not impose any undue financial burden or obligation on the school system.~~
- ~~3. All supplies and equipment purchased with funds from any donor become the property of the board, and the title to such property vests in the board.~~

The board has no responsibility and makes no promises to continue any program initiated with donor contributions once the donated funds are expended.

- ~~4. Any gift or donation that includes advertisement must be consistent with policy 5240, Advertising in the Schools.~~
- ~~5. The board may reject any gift or donation that the board determines is in conflict with the educational mission of the school system.~~

~~6. Any gift or donation from an E-rate service provider must comply with gift rules applicable to federal agencies.~~

~~Before installation of major donations that will become a permanent part of the school facility or grounds, including, but not limited to, capital improvements to school property, such as additions, alterations, or renovations of new or existing facilities, and other improvements to school facilities or grounds, such as playground equipment, bleachers, scoreboards, outdoor lights, or fences, the board must approve the design, location, and construction material of major gifts that will become a permanent part of the school facility or grounds, including, but not limited to, capital improvements to school property, such as additions, alterations, or renovations of new or existing facilities, and other improvements to school facilities or grounds, such as playground equipment, bleachers, scoreboards, outdoor lights, or fences. Any such gift donation also must meet any required safety standards and comply with all applicable laws and regulations and board policies.~~

~~Any gift or bequest constituting revenues that is accepted by the board will be deposited in the proper fund.~~

~~The superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines regarding gifts and bequests to enforce the requirements of this policy, including a means to provide for the appropriate recognition of contributors.~~

~~Unless otherwise specified in a written agreement approved by the board, any gift or bequest, including a capital improvement to school property, becomes the permanent property of the school system. If the board at any time determines that such property is unnecessary or undesirable for public school purposes, the board may sell such property in accordance with state law.~~

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47, -518; G.S. 115C, art. 35; 47 C.F.R. 54.503; FCC Sixth Report and Order 10-175

Cross References: Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), Advertising in the Schools (policy 5240), Student Wellness (policy 6140)

Adopted: October 12, 2015

Revised: [DATE]