Policy

GIFTS TO AND SOLICITATIONS BY STAFF EMPLOYEES

Purpose: To establish the basic structure regarding solicitation by staff members and the giving of gifts to staff members.

Selling Items for Personal Profit

In the interest of preserving a completely professional relationship between district employees of this district and those whom they serve, it is the policy of the board to not permit district employees to sell on district premises for personal profit products of any kind to other employees or students or patrons of the school building in which they teach or work.

Soliciting of Employees staff

No organization (Option: district may name specific organizations which are exemptions) may solicit funds from staff members within the district and the schools nor may they distribute flyers or other materials related to fund drives through the schools without the approval of the superintendent or his/her designee. Staff members will not be made responsible or assume responsibility for the collection of any money or distribution of any fund drive literature within the schools without such activity having the superintendent's appropriate approval.

As a matter of policy, the board expects such activities to be kept to a minimum. The superintendent will seek direction from the board in instances where prior practice has set no policy as to a particular fund drive.

Gifts from staff members to staff members

Individual employees are discouraged from giving gifts to staff members who exercise any administrative or supervisory jurisdiction over them, either directly or indirectly. Generally, the board discourages collection of money for group gifts except in special circumstances such as bereavement, serious illness, or for mementos at retirement.

Gifts to staff members

Any good school system expects to employ staff members who are expected to be ethical in their relationships with students, parents, other school personnel, and all companies with whom the district does business.

Richland School District Two
Employees/staff members may accept no personal gifts, bonuses, or gratuities -- consistent with guidelines issued by the State Ethics Commission -- from companies which do business with the district, whether or not companies give such gifts in the hope of increasing the sale of a product or to influence school personnel. Exceptions to this policy are the acceptance of minor items that are generally distributed by the company or organization through their public relations program.

Any gifts received as the result of the district's business, financial or operational affairs will accrue to the school system as a unit.

The board discourages the giving of gifts to staff/staff members/employees by students, parents and other patrons of the district as well as the exchange of gifts at holiday parties.

Adopted 11/28/72; Revised 3/20/73, 9/10/02, ^

Legal references:

A.  S. C. Code, 1976, as amended:
   1. 
   2.  Section 8-13-700, et seq. - State ethics law.
   3.  Section 8-15-10 et seq. - Local or local and state officers and employees generally.
   4.  Section 16-17-420 - Prohibits activities that disturb school.