

**Community Relations**

**SOLICITING OF FUNDS FROM AND BY STUDENTS**

**Solicitations on Behalf of Non-School Charitable Organizations**

The Governing Board recognizes that fundraising enables nonprofit, nonpartisan charitable organizations to fulfill important, worthwhile goals. The school district, by example, can help students develop a true sense of social responsibility.

Funds may be solicited or materials distributed for those nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations that are properly organized for charitable purposes under federal or state law. All such solicitations on school premises shall be approved in advance by the Board (Education Code 51520)

**Solicitations on Behalf of the School**

With the approval of the principal, official school-related organizations (PTA, booster club, etc.) may organize fundraising events involving students. (cf. 1230 – Other School Connected Organizations)

Prior Board approval shall be required for sales or solicitations whenever any portion of the funds raised is applied to the costs of the fundraiser or to the costs of merchandise sold. (Education Code 51521) Prior board approval shall not be required if the total proceeds of a solicitation are delivered to the school without any deductions for expenses. (Education Code 51521)

**All Solicitation**

Whether solicitations are made on behalf of the school or on behalf of another charitable organization, the Board particularly desires that no students shall be made to feel uncomfortable or pressured to provide funds which they or their families can ill afford. Staff is expected to emphasize the fact that donations are always voluntary. No students shall be barred from an activity because they did not participate in fundraising. No student shall be required to raise a specified amount of money through fundraising in order to participate in an activity sponsored by a school-related organization.

Students making solicitations on behalf of the school or for school-related projects are expected to demonstrate courteous and respectful attitudes towards all individuals and businesses, whatever the outcome of the solicitation may be.

In order to minimize interruptions to regularly scheduled instruction, all fundraising activities may be limited to appropriate time periods designated by the principal.

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*51520 – Prohibited solicitations on school premises (except such nonpartisan, charitable organizations as approved by the Governing Board)*

*51521 – Unlawful solicitations of contribution or purchase of person property for benefit of public school or student body; exception*

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

*17510-17510.7 – Charitable solicitations*

Adopted: November, 1989  
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**WEST SONOMA COUNTY UHSD**  
Sebastopol, California