

Policy KH- Solicitations in the Schools

Public Use of School Resources for Distribution of Information

Schools are nonpublic forums for distribution of information; therefore, non-school organizations have no right to use teacher mailboxes, school bulletin boards, or other similar school resources for distribution of materials.

A school may create a limited public forum when the school leader opens its resources to a non-school organization. This could mean that the school may be required to permit the use of school resources for distribution of information to other non-school organizations without regard to the viewpoint represented in the materials, with limited exceptions for content inappropriate for a school environment. Therefore, prior to allowing distribution of information to a non-school organization, a school leader is encouraged to seek guidance from the Office of the General Counsel.

The above restrictions do not apply to the use of teacher mailboxes by the Denver Classroom Teachers' Association ("DCTA"); as the exclusive bargaining unit for DCTA-eligible employees in the District, allowing use of school resources for this non-school organization does not create a limited public forum for other content. Any use of teacher mailboxes must be consistent with the requirements and limitations of state law.

Drives or Campaigns

No drives or campaigns shall be conducted among either employees or students unless approved by the superintendent or, in the case of the individual school, by the principal. Participation in all such drives or campaigns always shall be on an individual volunteer basis.

Drives and campaigns conducted among students shall be administered so that they offer to the students positive educational value both in factual content and by example an exercise in civic mindedness. Such drives and campaigns shall be administered so that they shall not disrupt the educational program of the schools. Door-to-door solicitation by students is unacceptable.

Districtwide drives for clothing, canned food or toys from students

Requests from community agencies for approval for districtwide drives for clothing, canned food or toys among students shall be referred to the Department of Community Partnership for review. The recommendations of the department shall be submitted to the superintendent. The superintendent shall review, designate and authorize such drives or campaigns among students appropriate at that time for district participation.

Drives or campaigns conducted at local option

The Department of Community Partnership may recommend to the superintendent certain drives or campaigns to be conducted among students at local school option.

The superintendent shall select and authorize such local option drives or campaigns appropriate at that time for local school support.

Individual school drives or campaigns

Any principal may appoint an individual school *ad hoc* committee consisting of students and staff to screen requests for approved drives or campaigns among students of the school for local option. The committee shall judge the importance and appropriateness of the request and shall recommend to the principal whether such a drive or campaign should be conducted among students in the school.

The principal shall select and approve such drives or campaigns recommended by the *ad hoc* committee which the principal deems appropriate at that time for school support.

Adopted September 17, 1976

Revised November 6, 1997

Revised February 16, 2012

CROSS REFS.: GBI, Staff Gifts and Solicitations

JL, Student Gifts and Solicitations