

GIFTS TO AND SOLICITATIONS BY STAFF

State Ethics Laws limit the gifts that staff, teachers and coaches are allowed to accept. We do not want staff, teachers or coaches to be put into a position where they cannot or should not accept gifts of value from well-intended, grateful families.

When families, students and others wish to express personal appreciation to a teacher or other staff member, including coaches, the School Committee urges them to find modes of expression that do not involve personal gifts.

Individual Gifts: Gifts from individual families to staff may not exceed \$50 in value for the school year. Public school employees are required to disclose gifts received from individual students, parents, and guardians that are not class gifts.

Group Gifts to Staff: A public school department employee is allowed to accept a personal gift or several gifts during the school year, from a class or a team under certain conditions:

- Gifts with a total value of up to \$150, if the gift is identified only as being from the class/team, and the identity of givers and amounts given are not identified to the recipient, are acceptable.
- Group gifts are exempt from disclosure because the givers are not identified to the recipient.
- Under no circumstances should a group gift to a staff member exceed \$150 total per school year.

Gifts to the Classroom or the School: Parents may also give gifts to the classroom or the school in accordance with the rules of the school district. In keep with this policy, no employee of the School District will accept a personal gift from a business concern supplying, or with an interest in supplying, goods, materials, equipment or services to the school system. This restriction does not relate to the acceptance of gifts for the school system, nor to the acceptance of small and clearly identifiable advertising and promotional materials.

Solicitations: In spirit, the School Committee supports the many worthwhile charitable drives that take place in the community and are gratified when school employees give them their support. However, the direct solicitation of funds by staff members or students must be held at a minimum.

The solicitation of funds for the United Way will be permitted on an annual basis.

LEGAL REF: M.G.L. 268A; 930 CMR 5.07, et al.

CROSS REFS: KHA, Public Solicitations in the Schools
JP, Student Donations and Gifts

Revised: 9/6/12 Approved: 3/20/14, 11/17/16