

**CRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

POLICY: CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS

The Superintendent of Schools shall approve participation in extracurricular contests sponsored by organizations outside the schools, as long as participation does not interfere with the instructional program. When such contests involves promotion of a product/company, school time, or faculty assistance to pupils in essay writing, poster making, or other activities, the Chief School Administrator shall determine whether the experiences are closely enough allied to and in support of the instructional work of the school and will clearly serve to advance the educational aims of the district. The worthiness of the sponsoring agency's cause or the opportunity for individuals to win prizes shall not in themselves constitute sufficient reason for approving a contest.

Where students so agree to participate in any activity sponsored by an outside organization, it shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring organization to assume the management of the contest, providing the students with detailed information, instructions, and rules governing the activity.

At no time will pressure be applied to students to participate or refrain from participating in any contest sponsored by outside organizations.

Commercial or other exploitation of pupils through the schools shall be avoided. Consequently, the public schools shall normally not promote or sanction the participation of pupils in promotional essay contests, sales contests, art contests, or any type of publicity promotion competitions. Contests and awards shall not place undue time or financial burdens on pupils, teachers, and parents. They shall not promote commercial products or partisan viewpoints. Participation shall not be dependent on the financial status of the pupil.

Contests and awards whether local, state, or national, shall be:

1. For the benefit of the pupil
2. Open to all pupils regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, or sex
3. Consistent with district objectives
4. Judged by disinterested parties
5. Properly supervised with safety precautions in place
6. Voluntary for pupils and teachers

<u>Legal References:</u>	N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1-1	General mandatory powers and duties
	N .J.S.A. 19A:42-2	School orchestra not to compete with civilian musicians, Exceptions
	N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20	Powers of Board (county vocational schools)

Possible Cross

<u>References:</u>	3280 Gifts, grants, and bequests
	5126 Awards for achievement
	6145 Extracurricular activities
	6145.1/6145.2 Intramural competition, interscholastic competition 6153
	Field trips

Adopted: May 15, 1979
Revised: February 26, 1996
Revised: October 08, 2007