



Cranford
Public School District

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Dr. Scott Rubin
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, Staff, and Community members,

In October 2016, Cranford law enforcement officials reached out to the school district to consider security measures for the highly attended public events in district, including but not limited to Cranford High School football games, basketball games, wrestling matches, and annual commencement exercises.

Two attacks (one in Linden, the other in Elizabeth) upon so-called “soft” targets, along with emerging “best practices” from Homeland Security and state anti-terrorism officials, prompted their timely outreach to us.

The Board of Education’s Policy Committee spent a great deal of time in developing a policy that would make our highly attended events even more secure than before.

The fruit of these labors is **Board Policy #1412, Permitted Items at Board-Sponsored Public Events**, which appears below. Adopted at the May 22, 2017, Board meeting, this policy delineates both permitted and prohibited items for purposes of entry to and attendance at highly attended public events.

I invite your careful review of it. Hopefully, it will become clear why we worked so closely with Cranford law enforcement officials to create it.

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring an even safer environment for all participants, coaches and staff, and attendees at our highly attended public events during the year.

Thank you and let’s all have an enriching, enjoyable, and safe 2019-2020 school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott Rubin
Superintendent of Schools

**CRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

POLICY: PERMITTED ITEMS AT BOARD-SPONSORED EXTRA-CURRICULAR EVENTS

PURPOSE

This policy is meant to promote a safe environment at Board-sponsored extra-curricular events by enhancing the safety and security at such events for both participants and attendees. The policy emerged from the Board's ongoing review of its school security policies, in consultation with the Cranford Police Department. It shall take effect starting with the events during the 2017-18 school year

POLICY

The Board policy limits and restricts the size and types of bags that are permitted for all attendees at Board sponsored extra-curricular events, including but not limited to Cranford High School football games, basketball games, wrestling matches, and commencement exercises.

The Board encourages attendees not to bring any bags; however, the following will be permitted:

- One clear bag no larger than 12" x 15" x 3".
- In addition, event attendees may carry a small clutch bag or wristlet no larger than 4" x 6" x 1", with or without a strap.
- All attendees may carry one approved clear bag and one clutch bag or wristlet.
- Bags containing medically necessary items for that attendee's assistance (e.g., oxygen tank).
- Diaper bags

In addition, each attendee is permitted to bring loose items, including:

- Coat
- Blanket
- Seat cushions that do not exceed 18 inches wide and contain no pockets, zippers or concealable areas. The seat cushion provided by the Cranford Booster Club is preferred.
- iPad or other mobile devices
- Camera (no camera bag)
- Binoculars (no case or bag)
- Babies may be brought into venues in a soft baby carrier or sling. Rigid frame baby and toddler carriers, as well as strollers, are permitted.

Note: All permitted items are subject to inspection before entry will be permitted.

No other bags are permitted, including but not limited to:

- Backpacks
- Fanny packs
- Purses
- String bags
- Messenger bags
- Camera bags

- Briefcases
- Roll bags
- Binocular cases
- Duffle bags

There are no provisions for leaving prohibited items at gates or doors. Neither the Board nor any Cranford staff member will be responsible for items left behind, lost, stolen, or damaged.

The Board reserves the right to deny entry to any Board-sponsored extra-curricular event to any person not complying with this policy. Any attendees not complying with this policy shall be denied entry to the event or asked to leave the event.

Adopted: May 22, 2017

