# **Student Incentives**

The Washougal Board of Directors recognizes that providing students with prizes or awards can serve as a meaningful incentive for increasing academic achievement, promoting civility and pro-social behavior, encouraging physical fitness and for encouraging students to become responsible citizens, productive workers and lifelong learners.

The board supports awarding incentives to recognize a student's academic, social, leadership and athletic achievements.

All incentives will support individual student achievement and the district's curriculum, programs, academic, behavior or attendance goals. Therefore, every student recipient will receive an incentive only if the activity relates to the primary mission and goal of the district to increase student academic achievement.

District funds may be used to provide student incentives that meet the board's objective of increasing academic achievement.

The superintendent or designee will develop procedures to implement this policy.

Cross References:	Board Policy 3510	Associated Student Bodies
	6114	Gifts

Legal References: Washington Constitution, Article VIII, § 5 and § 7

Management Resources:

Policy News, February 2011 Student Incentives

Adoption Date: 06.25.13 Washougal School District

# **Procedure - Student Incentives**

# **Definitions**:

- A. Prize: something of value conveyed as a result of chance, generally for promotional purposes, to one or more participants in a district-sponsored event.
- B. Award: Recognition or something of value conveyed as a result of competition, merit or in recognition of service to the district on the part of the recipient.
- C. De minimis: Minimal value, a small amount, lacking significance or importance, having little or no impact on public funds, so minor as to merit disregard.

#### **Award/ Prize Values**

The district will consider any prize or award amount equal to or less than \$15.00 (fifteen) dollars to be *de minimus*. In determining whether an incentive is a *de minimis* amount, the district will consider whether the amount is insignificant to a recipient for tax purposes and insignificant to the district.

The value of an individual student prize will not exceed \$25.00 (twenty-five dollars). The total amount of public funds disbursed by the district for prizes during a single academic year will not exceed \$25.00 for each elementary school, \$25.00 for each middle school and \$25.00 for each high school.

# Gifts

The district is prohibited from using public funds to provide gifts.

The following are examples of prohibited gifts:

- A. The district may provide light lunches or refreshments for volunteers during or near the time the services are provided. The district cannot provide a separate event at district expense;
- B. The district cannot pay the cost for staff to attend an optional training program. If training is required the district may pay with district funds;
- C. Flowers purchased for celebrations or to express sympathy; and
- D. Food, clothing or other items purchase for someone in need.

# Associated Student Body Fundraising – Individual Student Incentives

All property and money acquired by the Associated Student Body (ASB), except private nonassociated student body funds, are district funds and will be deposited and disbursed from the district's ASB program fund. The district may use a portion of ASB funds to award individual student efforts for fundraising that is related to ASB activities, but only if the activity is for a legitimate school purpose (academic achievement) and spending is in accordance with the boardapproved budget.

#### **Corporate Incentives**

Corporate incentives provided to the district for the benefit of students become district property.

If the incentive is made to an individual student directly from the corporation, the incentive becomes the personal property of the student and is not calculated as an incentive provided by the district. In order to be considered personal property, the incentive at no time may be presented to the district or be in possession of the district.

Any vendor, group or organization that offers student incentives to support the district must communicate with the district, prior to providing the incentive to ensure its efforts are compatible with the district's educational goals. The district reserves the right to reject any student incentive that would not serve the interests of the district.

Prizes or awards provided to the ASB by outside vendors must also fall within the individual and district limits.

#### **Recording Incentives**

Incentives received will be recorded by the school. This will allow parents and teachers to view incentives provided to students and will also allow each school to analyze the distribution of incentives.

Washougal School District Date: 04.22