



I. Policy Statement

The Board of Education recognizes that many contests sponsored by local, state, and national organizations are both meritorious and well intended. The Board further encourages student participation in contests provided they relate to the educational program of studies and benefit students educationally.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for student participation in contests sponsored by outside organizations.

III. Definitions

Contest - A competition in which an entrant(s) performs separately and is rated by judges.

IV. Standards

- A. Student participation in contests is limited to those that:
 - 1. Provide for appropriate and adequate supervision for the duration of the event.
 - 2. Incur participation cost that is minimal to the students, school, and community.
 - 3. Do not promote or advertise a product or an ideology.
- B. Contests must not place an undue hardship on students, professional staff, or schools.
- C. The involvement of teachers and/or principals in the selection or judging process is subject to the Board of Education's Ethics Regulations.
- D. Contests that utilize school time or involve extensive travel by students or supervising staff members are subject to the provisions of Policies 8100, Field Trips and Student Activity Trips and 8110, Foreign Travel, and must be evaluated in terms of the benefits to students affected by the loss of instructional time.

- E. The Board also recognizes that participation in any contest shall be voluntary on the part of the school and/or students.

V. Compliance

- A. School administrators are responsible for approving student participation in contests.
- B. School administrators are responsible for providing information on approved contests to the Office of School Administration.
- C. The Office of School Administration is responsible for creating and maintaining a database of approved contests.

VI. Delegation of Authority

The superintendent is authorized to develop procedures for the implementation of this policy.

VII. References

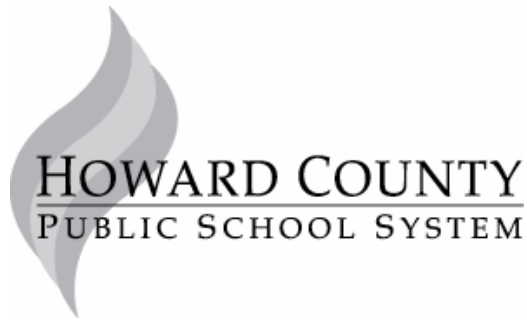
Other Board Policies

Policy 8100	Field Trips and Student Activity Trips
Policy 8110	Foreign Travel

ADOPTED: November 13, 1973

AMENDED: September 13, 1990
June 9, 2005

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2005



POLICY 10030-PR
IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES
PARTICIPATION IN CONTESTS

Effective: July 1, 2005

I. School-Based Procedures

- A. School-based administration will consider the following when deciding whether to approve school or student participation in contests:
 - 1. Educational benefits to participating students.
 - 2. How the contest relates to the curriculum.
 - 3. The importance of the contest as a means of assisting schools and/or students to meet school system standards.
 - 4. Compliance with 2921, §IV.
- B. School-based administrators who have questions regarding whether a contest complies with the approval criteria (2921, §IV), may submit information on the contest to the central office contest committee for a decision.
- C. The following information on approved contests will be included in a database housed at each school:
 - 1. Date
 - 2. Name of Contest
 - 3. Contact Information
 - 4. Targeted Audience
 - 5. System Goal Addressed
 - 6. Contest Timeline
 - 7. Method of Distributing Information
 - 7. Cost per Student
- D. Information on approved contests shall be forwarded to the designated school administrative director who will maintain and distribute to curriculum directors and coordinators, a database of ALL approved contests.
- E. The directors of school administration will annually review the provisions of this policy with principals and assistant principals.

II. Contest Committee Procedures

- A. A contest committee under the direction of and designated by a director of school administration will convene for the purpose of considering requests for school and/or student participation in contests submitted by school principals.

- B. Central office administrators, curriculum directors, and coordinators receiving requests for contest approval from outside organizations will forward such requests to the contest committee for approval. They may be involved in the committee approval process to ensure alignment between the contest and the curricular content of their respective area.
- C. The contest committee will review submitted contests to ensure compliance with approval criteria and notify the school principal of its decision. Information related to the committee's decisions will be included in the system-wide database.

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