

1 Great Falls Public Schools

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3 **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

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5 School-Support Organizations, Boosters and Fundraising

6 The Board recognizes that parent, teacher, and student organizations are an invaluable resource to
7 District schools and supports their formation and vitality. While parent, teacher, and student
8 organizations have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, their
9 suggestions and assistance are always welcome.

10 School Support Organizations

11 Parent or booster organizations are recognized by the Board and permitted to use the District's
12 name, a District school's name, or a District school's team name or any logo attributable to the
13 District, provided they first receive the Superintendent's or designee's written consent.
14 Unauthorized use of the District school's team name, logo, or imagery is strictly prohibited. The
15 District reserves the right to see all available legal remedies for unauthorized use of the District
16 school's name, logo, or imagery.

17 In order for the District to comply with federal law, state law and MHSAA By-Laws, Rules and
18 Regulations, recognition as a parent or booster organization along with consent to use one of the
19 above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization has approved and
20 submitted bylaws containing the following:

- 21 1. The organization's name and purpose. Acceptable purposes may include enhancement of
22 students' educational experiences, assistance to meet educational needs of students,
23 support of academic clubs, or enrichment of extracurricular activities.
- 24 2. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
- 25 3. A statement that the membership will adhere to applicable Board policies and
26 administrative procedures when working on District premises or with District officials or
27 programs.
- 28 4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted and the organization will not engage
29 in discrimination based on someone's innate characteristics or membership in a protected
30 classification.
- 31 5. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's
32 business or the conduct of its members.
- 33 6. A designation of the organization's treasurer. A statement that the organization will
34 maintain finances consistent with the General Finance Principles in a manner open to
35 review by any member of the organization or the school district.
- 36 7. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense.
37 Booster organizations may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable
38 consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion. The District's legal
39 obligations to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members
40 of both genders will supersede an organizations recommendation.

1 8. A recognition that the District reserves the right to reject any and all donations.

2 The permission to use one of the above-mentioned names, logos or imagery may be rescinded by
3 the administration for failure to comply with this policy. Authorization to use one of the above-
4 mentioned names, logos, or imagery does not constitute permission to act as the District's
5 representative. At no time does the District accept responsibility for the actions of any parent or
6 booster organization, regardless of whether it was recognized and/or permitted to use any of the
7 above-mentioned names or logos. The Superintendent or designee may designate an
8 administrative staff member to serve as the liaison to parent or booster organization. The liaison
9 will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies,
10 problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff may be encouraged to participate in the
11 organizations.

12 Individual Boosters or Donors

13 Individual boosters or donors not covered by the by-laws of an organization governed by this
14 policy may still assist in school operations. In order for the District to comply with the federal
15 law, state law and MHSA By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, individual boosters or donors must
16 honor the following provisions:

- 17 1. The individual must have prior approval granted by the Superintendent or designee for use
18 of the District's name, logo, or imagery.
- 19 2. The individual must comply with District policies and administrative procedures when
20 submitting donations.
- 21 3. The individual may not violate federal law, state law, District policy or MHSA By-Laws,
22 Rules and Regulations.
- 23 4. The individual acknowledges the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the
24 individual booster or donor's business or their conduct.
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- 26 5. The individual acknowledges that donations cannot be earmarked for any particular
27 expense. Individual boosters or donors may make recommendations, but cash or other
28 valuable consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion in accordance
29 with applicable laws. The District's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing
30 equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supersede any individual's
31 recommendation.
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- 33 6. The District reserves the right to reject any and all donations.

34 Fundraising

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37 All donations completed by recognized organizations are subject to applicable District policies
38 regarding financial management, including 7225 Crowdfunding Guidelines and Approval Process
39 and 3530 Student Fundraising Activities. Funding endeavors are generally viewed as beneficial
40 when coordinated with district goals, initiatives, and existing plans. The District reserves the right
41 to reject any and all donations.
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1 All funds raised by recognized organizations that are donated to the District become public funds
2 when placed in a District account. All public funds must be monitored in accordance with state
3 law. Donations must be reviewed to ensure compliance with equity rules, amateur rules and
4 appropriateness under district policy. Donations may be conditional under state law if conditions
5 are in compliance.

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7 Funds spent by the District will be done in accordance with District purchase order policy and
8 spending limits regardless of the source of the donation. All expenditures should be preapproved
9 to ensure equity and auditing standards are met.

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11 Cross Reference:

12 Policy 3530 – Student Fundraising Activities
13 Policy 3535 – Distribution of Fund Drive Literature Through Students
14 Policy 4321 – Distribution of Fund Drive Literature Through Students
15 Policy 7225 Crowdfunding Guidelines and Approval Process
16 Policy 7225F Fundraising Request Form
17 Policy 7260 – Endowments, Gifts, and Investments
18 District Rules for Athletic Fundraising and Support
19 <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/departments/athletics>

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21 Legal Reference:

22 § 20-6-601 MCA Power to accept gifts
23 § 2-2-103-2(3) MCA Definitions
24 § 2-2-104 MCA Rules of conduct for public officers, legislators, and public employees

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26 Policy History:

27 Adopted on: July 1, 2000
28 Revised on: March 9, 2015
29 Revised on: May 9, 2016
30 Revised on: March 12, 2018
31 Revised on: February 11, 2019