

Medway Public Schools Medway, MA  
School Committee Policy

Policy #97

**Donations / Gifts Policy**

As prescribed by Chapter 44, Section 53A, and Chapter 71, Section 37A, of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Medway School Committee may accept donations and gifts. This includes donations/gifts and grants from federal or state government, private foundations, non-profit organizations, parent organizations, booster groups, education foundations and individuals.

All donations and gifts become property of the Medway School District upon acceptance by the School Committee. Donations/gifts may not be spent or used in the schools unless they have been accepted by a vote of the School Committee.

Gifts of cash donations will be deposited to the donations account and may be expended at the discretion of the Committee, as provided by law.

The School Committee reserves the right to decline any donation/gift that would not serve the interests of the Medway School District. All donations/gifts will be considered, but the School Committee will generally not accept donations/gifts in the following circumstances:

- Donations/gifts which will require special supplies or maintenance, or entail other significant costs which are not covered by the gift or grant. Such donations/gifts may be subject to acceptance on the basis that funding accompanying the gift will cover supplies and/or maintenance for up to two years.
- Donations/gifts which are incompatible with existing or planned curriculum, programs, facilities or equipment.
- Donations/gifts which may offer a disproportionate advantage in educational opportunity to a specific school or segment of the school population.
- Donations/gifts whose acceptance could be reasonably construed as exclusively furthering the narrow goals of an individual or group.
- Donations/gifts that would involve advertising or promotion of a commercial interest.

- Donations/gifts may result in a recurring cost to the District, or create a cost to the district that could terminate or eliminate staff, equipment or materials.
- Donations/gifts would support a discontinued program, equipment or materials.

In general, donations/gifts for staffing are prohibited. Donations/gifts for staffing of extracurricular or athletic activities may be allowed under the following conditions:

- Prior approval of Superintendent's office
- Approval by the Medway School Committee
- Positions will be filled in compliance with the Unit A Contract.

Any donation of a capital item, equipment, or technology will first be considered by the Superintendent to ensure its usability. The Superintendent will forward a recommendation to the School Committee for a vote. If approved by the School Committee, these donations / gifts will be accepted in accordance with school administration policies and procedures.

Any donation of library books or materials, enrichment program materials, guest speakers, curriculum materials, or programs in the school will first be considered by the Superintendent. The Superintendent will forward a recommendation to the School Committee for a vote. If approved by the School Committee, these donations/gifts will be accepted in accordance with school administration policies and procedures.

Donations of time and personal services by parents, guardians or residents shall not be subject to this policy.

First Reading: February 28, 2019

Revised: March 14, 2019

Cross Reference: Fundraising policy #41

M.G.L Chapter 44, Section 53A

M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 37A