

FUNDRAISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

In accord with Rhode Island 16-38-6, the following guidelines shall apply to fundraising and commercial activity in the Chariho Regional School District.

Fundraising

The Chariho Regional School District makes every effort to provide sufficient funding for its programs and activities. However, it is recognized that additional funds may be needed for purposes that extend beyond the budget. As such, fundraising activities should not be used for the purpose of funding items that should be included in the school budget.

The following guidelines shall apply:

- A. Fundraising activities sponsored by student organizations, school and parent groups, and others must have the approval of the building principal and the superintendent. Written approval must be gained at least two weeks before the activity.
- B. Fundraising activities should have a specific objective which should be attained within the current school year. Exceptions for long-term projects may be granted by the superintendent, with notification to the School Committee.
- C. Funds raised must come under the joint control and disbursement of the school principal and the individual in charge of the fundraising. All funds which are entered into the student activities fund shall be done by the principal or designee and be consistent with the guidelines set forth by the superintendent. All such funds shall be subject to the annual audit. Funds must be spent for the purpose for which they were raised.
- D. Fundraising activities involving the sale of food items must conform to the Health and Wellness Policy.
- E. Student participation in fundraising activities shall be voluntary. Door-to-door sales at the elementary and middle levels are prohibited. High School students participating in door-to-door sales must have written parent permission.
- F. Effective with the start of the 2008-2009 school year, elementary schools, the Middle School, and the Chariho Alternative Learning Academy will be limited to a total of eight fundraising events per year. The High School/Career and Technical Center will be limited to a total of sixteen fundraising events per year. Two additional events per year per school may be dedicated to raising funds for non-school charitable causes. Events in any school may not run simultaneously. This does not apply to Dress Down Days, Sports' Boosters game day sales, non-monetary initiatives and single-day events such as dances, games, fairs, etc. Exceptions may be granted by the superintendent. A district fund-raising calendar will be maintained so that events are coordinated.

Commercial Activity

The Chariho Regional School District seeks to minimize commercial activity in its schools. While it is important to create partnerships between the schools and the business community, it is equally important that student exposure to commercial activity be minimized.

The following guidelines shall apply:

- A. With the exception of those involving fundraising activities, no commercial goods or services shall be sold to students, nor shall any commercial materials (e.g., flyers, advertisements) be sent home with students. No specific for-profit entity, product or service shall be endorsed. Goods or services related to the school lunch program, book sales, student insurance, school pictures, and instrument rentals are exempt. No student shall be obligated to purchase these products or services.
- B. Materials produced with the support of a business or individuals may include small-scale recognition of that business or individual. Recognition shall not be of such size as to be prominent. The school/district logo or name, if present, must be the most prominently displayed feature. The superintendent shall approve all such recognitions.
- C. Advertising of commercial goods and services shall not be permanently attached to school structures or prominently displayed on school property, including electronic property. A small-scale recognition, noting the name of the contributor, the date of the contribution, and nature of the contribution, may be attached to a donated item. Previously approved displays shall be exempt. The superintendent shall approve all such recognitions.
- D. Notices advertising for-profit businesses or agencies (excluding those delineated in B), promoting personal gain, or advancing political ventures (excluding notification of public meetings and informational materials regarding district initiatives) shall not be sent home with students or made available on school property. The Superintendent may approve the distribution of notices on school property from member town agencies and from non-profit organizations based in one of the member towns.
- E. Solicitation from any student by an employee of a contribution or gift of any value shall be prohibited.

Revised 11-27-07; Updated 9-22-22 (inserted CALA in place of the RYSE School); Updated 7-11-23 (Nutrition Policy changed to Health and Wellness)