

CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS

The District, on occasion, receives requests for conducting student contests in the schools. The Board of Trustees recognizes the merit of some of these requests and appreciates the interest in the schools evidenced by local, state, and national organizations. At the same time the Board recognizes its responsibility for maintaining a systematic, balanced educational program and will neither approve nor condone contest activities which tend to disrupt, or are unrelated to, the planned programs of instruction at any given time.

Therefore, it is the directive of the Board that, while students may participate in educational contests sponsored by non-school organizations, requests for permission to conduct such contests or for student participation therein, under school auspices, can only be done upon the recommendation of the principal and approval of the Superintendent.

The following guidelines shall be used for determining student participation in national or state non-school contests:

1. The primary educational aims of the schools and the needs and interests of their pupils must be a consideration at all times.
2. Schools shall not be used to promote private or commercial interests.
3. Schools shall not be used for direct sales promotion of individual competitive goods or services.
4. All materials or activities initiated by private sources shall be judged on grounds of their direct contribution to educational values, factual accuracy, and good taste.
5. Consideration shall be given in all cases to protecting students and teachers against unreasonable added work and responsibilities.
6. Student participation in contests shall not be required nor be part of the student's grade.

The following guidelines shall apply when making a determination of District financial support of students participating in national contests, events, and/or activities:

1. If a sponsor or coach is eligible to attend a national convention/competition due to the fact that he/she has a student(s) formally competing/presenting or the sponsor/coach is formally presenting/judging, etc., the District will pay travel expenses according to the district AROP travel policy associated with his/her attendance/participation.
2. Only those activities that are sponsored by the Wyoming High School Activities Association and that the district has annually agreed to participate in will be considered for national travel expenditures. Those activities currently sponsored by the WHSAA according to their website are: All-state music, Art, D.E.C.A., Drama, F.B.L.A., F.C.C.L.A., F.F.A., Journalism, Marching Band, Music, Skills USA, Speech, Spirit Groups, and Student Council. The national contest/convention must be directly related one of these activities sponsored by the WHSAA and recognized as an affiliated national event. Students that qualify for ACDA-NW American Choral Directors Association – Northwest, NAFME – National Association for Music Education – Northwest and First Robotics will also receive up to \$500 for national travel expenses.
3. If a student has earned a "berth" to present or compete at a national competition or convention/conference through virtue of winning state/regional competitions sponsored by the public schools qualifying him/her to present/compete, or, if by virtue of being an elected state

officer, he/she has earned a "berth" to represent the state or compete/present, the District will provide up to a \$500 to the student or on the student's behalf to help offset travel costs supported by the appropriate documentation of expenditures.

4. Students who qualify for a national event through means other than described in the previous section, may request district support, which shall not exceed \$250 to the student or on the student's behalf to help offset travel costs supported by the appropriate documentation of expenditures, AND no more than \$500 to support a coach or sponsor to offset travel costs.

4.5. This-A formal written request for District funds must be submitted to the building Principal before any trip planning may occur. The request will be reviewed on an individual, case-by-case basis-upon receipt of a voucher which has been signed by the student, the sponsor, and the building principal, and if approved by the appropriate administrator, the student(s) must then petition the Board of Education by submitting and presenting their request to be considered at the next regular -Inmeeting. In the case of a student receiving funds and then not attending, the money will-must be reimbursed back to the District. The trip must be approved at all appropriate levels prior to any trip planning or fundraising for the event.

5.6. Only currently enrolled students or students that graduated in the previous semester and will participate in the event prior to December 1st of the year they graduated from Park County School District #1 will be eligible for these funds.

6.7. The district will pay for 100% of registration fees to participate for any student or group that has earned their berth to national by virtue of winning their respective state event in the competition but will not pay for any additional meals or activities that are supplemental. All students must represent Park County School District #1 when utilizing these funds. No entry fees shall be paid for students or groups that are invited to national competitions through processes other than winning their state event.

7.8. Student participation at a national competition or convention/conference by means other than winning a competitive berth or as a state-elected official must be coordinated through the building administrator and will be at the student's own expense.

8.9. The guidelines for and the areas of reimbursement must be pre-approved by the Superintendent and the individual(s) involved prior to incurring any expense in order to be eligible for reimbursement.