

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS, GRANTS AND BEQUESTS TO BOCES

The Board may accept gifts, grants and/or bequests of money, real or personal property, as well as other merchandise which, in view of the Board, add to the overall welfare of BOCES, provided that such acceptance is in accordance with existing laws and regulations. However, the Board is not required to accept any gift, grant or bequest and does so at its discretion, basing its judgment on the best interest of BOCES. Furthermore, the Board will not accept any gift, grant or bequest which constitutes a conflict of interest and/or gives an appearance of impropriety.

At the same time, the Board will safeguard the BOCES, the staff and students from commercial exploitation, from special interest groups, and the like.

The Board will not accept any gifts or grants which will place encumbrances on future Boards, or result in unreasonable additional or hidden costs to BOCES.

The Board will not formerly consider the acceptance of gifts or grants until and unless it receives the offer in writing from the donor/grantor. Any such gifts or grants donated to the Board and accepted on behalf of BOCES must be by official action and resolution passed by Board majority. The Board would prefer the gift or grant to be a general offer rather than a specific one. Consequently, the Board would suggest that the donor/grantor work first with BOCES administrators in determining the nature of the gift or grant prior to formal consideration for acceptance by the Board. However, the Board, in its discretion, may direct the District Superintendent or his/her designee to apply such gift or grant for the benefit of a specific school program or service.

The Board is prohibited, in accordance with the New York State Constitution, from making gifts/charitable contributions with BOCES funds.

Gifts and/or grants of money to BOCES shall be annually accounted for under the trust and agency account in the bank designated by the Board.

All gifts, grants and/or bequests shall become BOCES property. A letter of appreciation, signed by the President of the Board and/or the District Superintendent or his/her designee, may be sent to a donor/grantor in recognition of his/her contribution to BOCES.

New York State Constitution 8, Section I
General Municipal Law Section 805-a(1)

NOTE: Refer also to [Policy #4320 -- BOCES Personal Property Accountability](#).

Adopted: 7/10/02