

PAY-TO-PLAY PROHIBITION

The board of education wishes to maintain honest and ethical relations with vendors and to avoid any appearance of impropriety or favoritism in its contracting practices. Therefore the board of education prohibits “pay-to-play.”

1. No member of the board will vote upon or otherwise participate in the awarding of any contract in an amount to any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association or other business entity which has contributed funds including campaign contributions to that member of the board of education within the previous three years.
  - a. Contributions to any member of the school board from any individual, firm, partnership, association, or other business entity doing business with the school district are prohibited during the term of a contract.
  - b. Contributions that are prohibited include cash contributions, in-kind contributions, pledges to make contributions of any kind to a candidate for or holder of public office, or any other thing of value.
2. Not later than 10 days **prior to** entering into any contract having an anticipated value in excess of \$17,500, except for a contract that is required by law to be publicly advertised for bids, any business entity bidding thereon or negotiating therefore, shall submit along with its bid or price quote, a list of political contributions made by the corporation, its principals, or others on its behalf, along with the date and amount of each contribution and the name of the recipient of each contribution.
3. In addition, the business entity may be subject to a fine imposed by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.
4. Provisions of this ban on pay-to-play will not apply to a contract when a public emergency requires the immediate delivery of goods or services.
5. The school board directs the board secretary/business administrator to file this policy with the N.J. Secretary of State, Office of Secretary of State, Laws & Commission Section, (P.O. Box 300, Trenton, NJ, 08625-0300), to inform vendors of the requirements of this policy, and to keep the school board informed about the implementation of this policy.

Adopted: May 15, 2006

Legal Reference: P.L. 2005, c. 271.

