

Contests

I. DEFINITION: A contest is an activity that involves competition by students of one or more schools with awards or prizes and sponsorship by an outside organization.

II. PROCEDURES:

- A.** Contests sponsored by an agency of the federal or state government or by an established charity may be approved based on the information provided in written communication from that agency.
- B.** Staff members who seek approval for students to participate in contests that are consistent with the Wallingford Board of Education's "Criteria for Approval of Contests" must submit the district's "Application for Contest Approval" form.
- C.** Any other request for content approval must be made on the district's "Application for Contest Approval" form.
- D.** All contest requests will be reviewed and evaluated by the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction to assure that the contest is consistent with Policy IGDHA and its regulations. Then, depending upon the degree to which the contest is in accord with the Wallingford Public Schools' objectives for education and instructional program, the contest will be approved or disapproved for optional participation by individual Wallingford schools.
- E.** All contest application forms should be submitted no later than thirty calendar days in advance of the beginning date of the contest.

III. CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF CONTESTS

- A.** The contest must be open to all students, regardless of race, gender, or creed.
- B.** The student or school must not be required to pay an entry fee or to purchase materials in order to participate.
- C.** The contest must be designed to benefit students in educational, civic, social, and/or ethical development.

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III. CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF CONTESTS (continued)

- D.** The contest must make it possible for individual students to enter as a result of their own efforts. The contest cannot require the involvement of staff members in order for students to become involved and must not place undue burdens on students, teachers, or schools.
- E.** If an examination is part of the contest, it must be administered outside of the regular school day.
- F.** The contest or activity must not require the frequent absence of participants from school.
- G.** The contest must be unique, not a duplication of others already in operation.
- H.** The contest should be well planned and have adequate evaluation; however, the involvement of teachers and/or principals in the selection or judging process is discouraged.
- I.** Awards should be appropriate both in number and kind and must be made only to students and/or to schools. Scholarships are regarded as the most desirable type of award and should be paid directly to the institution selected by the student.
- J.** The organization sponsoring the contest must be engaged in a creditable or acceptable enterprise.
- K.** The contest must be of such a nature as not to be considered commercial, controversial and/or sectarian nor be concerned with propaganda or advertising that would result in profit making for any individual or corporation.

Regulation Approved: 3/21/94

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