SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

02 - Policy Disposition Sheet

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Policy Disposition Sheet

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 3, 2026

DISPOSITION OF NEW/REVISED/REPLACEMENT
POLICIES FOR BOARD ADOPTION

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026

Coding for District-Specific Edits
*1 = drafted by District staff
*2 = if the material was a work for hire, that is, material the District paid someone else to develop but from whom the District purchased the rights to publish
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(No code is needed for accepting Neola's vetted material)

Policy Number	Date Adopted	District-Specific Edits (1, 2, or 3)	Date Tabled	Date Rejected
po5830	12/16/2026			
po6605	12/16/2026			
po6608 New	12/16/2026			
po9211 Renumbered/Rescind	12/16/2026			
po9215 Renumbered/Replacement	12/16/2026			
po9700	12/16/2026			

Policy Number	Date Adopted	District-Specific Edits (1, 2, or 3)	Date Tabled	Date Rejected
po9700.01	12/16/2026			

Mid-Ohio ESC

SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po5830

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Revised STUDENT FUNDRAISING

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 3, 2026

~~5830 - **STUDENT FUND-RAISING**~~

~~The Governing Board acknowledges that the solicitation of funds from students by students must be limited since compulsory attendance laws make the student a captive donor and since such solicitation may disrupt the program of the schools.~~

~~For purposes of this policy "student fund-raising" shall include student solicitation and collection of money for any purpose including collection of money in exchange for tickets, papers, or any other goods or services. "Student fund-raising" also includes giving away goods or services, but suggesting a monetary donation.~~

~~The Board will permit student fund-raising in school, on Center property, or at any school-sponsored event only when the profit therefrom is to be used for Center purposes or for an activity connected with the Center.~~

~~Student fund-raising by approved school organizations, whose funds are managed by the Treasurer, may be permitted in school by the Principal. For any fund-raisers, including those operated by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or boosters clubs, that involve the sale of food items and/or beverages to students that will be consumed on the school campus (any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that is accessible to students during the school day) during the school day (the period from the midnight before, to thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day), the food items and/or beverages to be sold shall comply~~

with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, and also be consistent with requirements set forth in Policy 8550, Competitive Foods.

Student fund-raising by approved school organizations off school grounds may be permitted under administrative guidelines of the Superintendent.

Use of the name, logo or any assets of the Educational Service Center, including but not limited to facilities, technology, or communication networks, is prohibited without the specific permission of the Superintendent.

The Governing Board does not permit or sanction the use of crowdfunding for Center or specific school programs or activities, including co-curricular or extracurricular activities.

Fund-raising by students on behalf of school-related organizations whose funds are not managed by the Treasurer may be permitted on school grounds in accordance with the Superintendent's administrative guidelines.

These administrative guidelines should:

A. specify the times and places in which funds may be collected;

B. describe permitted methods of solicitation which do not place undue pressure on students;

C. limit the kind and amount of advertising for solicitation.

Advisors for approved school organizations shall not accept any form of compensation from vendors that might influence their selection of a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser. Furthermore, advisors for approved school organizations shall not accept any compensation from a vendor after a decision has been made regarding a fund- raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser. In addition, advisors for approved school organizations who make the selection of a vendor that will provide a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser shall not enter into a contractual arrangement whereby an advisor receives compensation in any form from the vendor that provides a fund-raising activity or a product that will be sold as a fund-raiser.

Such compensation includes, but is not limited to, cash, checks, stocks, or any other form of securities, and gifts such as televisions, microwave ovens, computers, discount certificates, travel vouchers, tickets, passes, and other such things of value. In the event that an advisor of an approved school organization receives such compensation, albeit unsolicited, from a vendor, the individual shall notify the Treasurer, in writing, that s/he received such compensation and shall thereafter properly transmit said compensation to the Treasurer at his/her earliest opportunity.

The Superintendent shall distribute this policy and the guidelines which implement it to each student organization granted permission to solicit funds.

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Legal
R.C. 1716.02, 1716.03, 3313.811
Auditor of State Bulletin 2000-006
7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220

Mid-Ohio ESC

SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po6605

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Revised CROWDFUNDING

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

6605 - **CROWDFUNDING** This policy applies to the use of any form of crowdfunding utilizing an online service or website-based platform for the financial benefit or gain of the Educational Service Center – be it a specific classroom, grade level, department, school, or curricular or extracurricular activity.

"Crowdfunding is defined as the solicitation of resources from individuals and/or organizations to support identified activities or projects that enhance the educational program or a specific cause approved by the Center. The solicitation is typically from a large number of individuals/organizations utilizing internet-based technologies.

The Governing Board does not permit or sanction the use of crowdfunding for Center or specific school programs or activities, including co-curricular or extracurricular activities.

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SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po6608

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 New ACCOUNTABILITY AND

OVERSIGHT OF FUNDRAISER AND CROWDFUNDING DISBURSEMENTS

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

New Policy - Special Update - SSOs

6608 - **ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT OF FUNDRAISER AND CROWDFUNDING DISBURSEMENTS**

The Governing Board recognizes that the proper accounting, oversight, and transparency of all disbursements from fundraisers and crowdfunding campaigns organized by students or parent groups for the purpose of providing benefit to the Educational Service Center's ("Center") programming or facilities must be in alignment with applicable Federal and State accounting standards. Proper documentation and reporting are essential for compliance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 84 (GASB 84) and Federal reporting requirements

Fundraisers and crowdfunding campaigns conducted and organized by students, parent groups, and other private entities shall meet the compliance, accounting, and reporting requirements established herein. Parent groups may include Parent Teacher Associations ("PTAs"), Parent Teacher Organizations ("PTOs"), Educational Foundations, Booster clubs, and/or other private entities established for the benefit of the Center, school, or a school organization. (See also, Policy 5830 – Student Fundraising, Policy 9215 – School Support Organizations)

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following terms shall be defined as:

Custodial Funds: Funds held and managed by the Center for student activities under GASB 84.

Noncustodial Funds: Funds raised and managed independently by parent groups or private organizations.

F-33 Federal Financial Form Line 19: The line on the annual, mandated Federal report that is required to detail the "Contributions and Donations From Private Sources," which includes revenue associated with private donations, stipends, or on-behalf payments through fundraising activities. (Financial Accounting for Local and State School Systems: 2014 Edition)

[DRAFTING NOTE: As identified above, private sources include, but are not limited to: School Support Organizations, including Educational Foundations, PTA/PTO organizations, Booster Clubs, and any other private entity that has been established for the benefit of the Center, school, or a school organization.]

Accounting and Compliance Requirements – Custodial Funds

A. Student-Organized Fundraising

Funds raised by students whose funds are managed by the Center are classified as custodial funds. All funds collected must be deposited into the Center's custodial accounts and proper accounting and General Ledger code attribution is recommended.

Disbursements from the custodial accounts must be properly documented with receipts and expenditure records.

( ) A profit and loss report must be prepared and submitted to the **( )** Principal **( )** _____ **[END OF OPTION]** within ten (10) business days following the close of the fundraiser. The profit and loss report of each fundraiser shall be approved by the **( )** Superintendent **( )** _____ **[END OF OPTION]** .

As defined in the Financial Accounting for Local and State School Systems: 2014 Edition, all revenues and expenditures from student fundraising must be included on the F-33 Federal Financial Report. This data is collected through the Center's Annual Report to the Department of Public Instruction ("DPI").

B. Parent Group-Organized Fundraising (Non-Custodial Funds)

Funds raised by parent groups and/or other private individuals are considered non-custodial funds under GASB 84.

( ) Even though the funds raised by parent groups and/or other private individuals are non-custodial, parent groups are required to prepare and submit a profit and loss report for each fundraiser, donation, or crowdfunding campaign.

( ) The report submitted shall also include:

1. Total funds raised with explanation of use of proceeds.
2. Detailed listing of expenditures with receipts.
3. Description of disbursements to Center personnel, such as stipends or payments.
4. Description of disbursements to schools directly. Reports must be submitted to the **( )** Principal **( )** school bookkeeper **( )** _____ **[END OF OPTION]** within fifteen (15) business days of the fundraiser's conclusion. The report of each fundraiser shall be approved by the **( )** Principal **( )** _____ **[END OF OPTION]** .

[END OF OPTIONS]

~~Any disbursements to the school or Center must follow the established procedures for gifts to the Center.~~

~~**Center Oversight**~~

~~**[ ]** All reports shall be available **( )** for the _____ **[END OF OPTION]** to review, approve, implement appropriate financial controls and maintain necessary record-keeping. **[END OF OPTION]**~~

~~**[ ]** These reports should be available in a format that enables web-based access and can generate reporting of financial transactions as needed, both by program, source, or group, as well as in an aggregating manner to improve transparency and facilitate compliant reporting. **[END OF OPTION]**~~

~~Disbursements that include payments on behalf of the Center (e.g., purchase of equipment) must also be properly categorized in required annual reporting.~~

~~Failure to comply with this policy may result in suspension or restrictions to fundraising activities of a student group, foundation, parent organization, and/or other private entity. Improper reporting will result in additional audits or financial reviews of the offending organization's financial records. The **( )** Board **( )** Superintendent **( )** _____ **[END OF OPTIONS]** may impose other corrective actions that are necessary and appropriate to protect the integrity of the Board's financial operations and to meet the financial reporting standards.~~

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Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Renumber/Rescind EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

Renumber/Rescind Policy - Special Update - SSOs

~~9211 -~~ ~~**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS**~~

~~The Governing Board appreciates the efforts of all organizations whose objectives are to enhance the educational experiences of Educational Service Center ("Center") students, help meet the~~

educational needs of students, and/or provide extra educational benefits not provided for, at the time, by the Board.

Center support organizations are defined as any non-profit entity, group, or other organization formed and operating for the purpose of supporting Center programs.

Each support organization must maintain and provide proof of general liability insurance coverage. The Board shall offer the opportunity for any authorized school support entity to receive coverage under the Center's liability insurance program to protect the entity against claims resulting from damage or injury resulting from any act or omission of any school-support entity. The entity shall pay for such coverage upon written notification from the Treasurer.

[ ] Because of the connection between support organizations and the Center programs and students, and because of the common use of the Center name in connection with the organization's activities, the public perception may be that the organizations and their activities are school-sponsored and approved by the Board, notwithstanding the fact that such organizations are independent entities, are not agents of the Board, and are not under the control or authority of the Board. In order to prevent disruption to the Center's educational programs and injury to the Center's reputation by conduct and activities of a support organization which are inconsistent with the Center's mission, only organizations formally recognized by the Board will be permitted to use the Center name, as well as any logos or other insignia or emblems associated with and used to identify the Center and/or school-sponsored programs and activities.

The following rules and procedures shall govern the working relationships between the Board, administration, and any Center support organization. The Board may revoke formal recognition of any support group that fails to comply with these rules:

A. School employees and Board-approved school volunteers may not be directly compensated in any manner by Center support organizations.

( ) Additionally, school employees and Board members will not manage or have access to Center support organization funds or serve as a voting member or officer of the organization.

[DRAFTING NOTE: It is highly advisable that school employees and Board members not serve as voting members or officers, or have any access or role in managing the organization's funds because when misconduct occurs, it may negatively impact their jobs, licenses, or any official role with the Governing Board.]

[END OF OPTION]

B. In addition to parents, membership should be made available to Center staff and members of the community.

C. ~~Each Center support organization shall work in cooperation with the designated administrator and other staff members and shall abide by the policies of the Board.~~

D. ~~It shall be the responsibility of each Center support organization to monitor its activities to assure compliance with Board Policy.~~

E. ~~( )~~ ~~The organization shall permit the Board to review all financial books and documentation upon request and shall conduct a financial audit upon request of the Board. In addition, organizations must produce the following documents to the Superintendent and/or Treasurer upon request:~~

1. ~~( )~~ ~~A determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service that verifies the organization is a tax-exempt organization in good standing as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (if applicable).~~

2. ~~( )~~ ~~A copy of the Articles of Incorporation or amended Articles of Incorporation on file with the Ohio Secretary of State (if applicable).~~

3. ~~( )~~ ~~A copy of any filing with the Ohio Attorney General (if applicable).~~

4. ~~( )~~ ~~A copy of the support organization's Bylaws and any amendments.~~

5. ~~( )~~ ~~A current list of names, addresses, and titles of each officer of the organization. No administrative employee of the Center may be an officer of the booster organization in order for the organization to obtain Board recognition.~~

6. ~~( )~~ ~~A description of the projects or activities the organization intends to undertake during the ensuing school year and the objective and goals of such projects or activities.~~

7. ~~( )~~ ~~The organization's balance sheet, together with an accounting of the organization's income and expenses for the preceding calendar year.~~

8. ~~( )~~ ~~Copies of State and Federal tax reports for the most recent year, as well as copies of any audit reports.~~

F. ~~( )~~ ~~Each Center support organization is encouraged to set goals that are consistent with those of the particular programs, activities, or sports being supported as articulated by the coach/advisor and/or athletic director of such program, activity, or sport to avoid duplication of effort and to maximize the benefit to the organization or group.~~

G. ~~( )~~ ~~The activities of Center support organizations shall not involve the use of public funds and the Center shall not assume responsibility for any purchases made on behalf of any~~

support organization governed by this policy. The Center tax identification number shall not be used for Center support organization purchases.

H. ( ) The time, date, purpose, location, and conduct of all fund-raisers on Center property shall have prior approval of the administration. Center support organizations are encouraged to communicate their preferred activity dates to the administration as soon as possible as consideration for dates and facilities will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

I. ( ) Each Center support organization must abide by the policies and guidelines established for the use of Center facilities and grounds. Projects that require any modification or alteration to Center property must be pre-approved by the Superintendent.

J. ( ) All food items and beverages available for sale to students that will be consumed on the school campus (any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that is accessible to students during the school day) during the school day (the period from midnight before to thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day) as fund-raisers, including items sold by student clubs and organizations, parent groups, or booster clubs, shall comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Fund-raisers also include giving away goods or services, but suggesting a monetary donation. All activities must be approved by the Superintendent, in advance. If approved, fund-raisers that involve the sale of food items or beverages to students on campus must be consistent with regulations established in Policy 8550 - Competitive Food Sales.

K. ( ) Proceeds from Center support organization fund-raisers shall not be commingled with a student activity or other Board accounts. Board employees who commingle such proceeds with a student activity or other Board account shall be subject to discipline.

L. ( ) The Superintendent shall implement administrative guidelines that require each Center support organization's fund-raising activities to be in compliance with Board policies and that the funds generated by such fund-raising activities and donated to the Center are used for school-related projects that have the approval of the Superintendent.

M. ( ) Center support organizations are encouraged to obtain 501(c)(3) status so that community members may properly take tax deductions for donations to the organization.

N. ( ) Donations from Center support organizations must be made in accordance with Board Policy 7230 - Gifts, Grants, and Bequests and any accompanying guidelines. Donations shall become the property of the Board and used in a manner determined by the Board, in accordance with its policies and administrative guidelines.

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Legal
7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220
R.C. 3313.203
Ohio Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion 2008-01

Mid-Ohio ESC

SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po9215

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Renumbered/Replacement SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS (SS0s)

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

Renumbered/Replacement Policy - Special Update - SSOs

9215 - **SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS (SSOs)**

[DRAFTING NOTE: The more oversight the Board takes on concerning school support organizations ("SSOs"), the more obligation it takes on relative to the organization's activities. Boards should carefully consider the level of oversight and requirements in State or Federal law regarding such oversight, with the interests of the organization and/or the school/Board when making choices within this policy. However, many states have enacted legislation that mandates such a level of oversight, and Federal Accounting Procedures regarding appropriate donation reporting; therefore, such oversight could be considered in the Board's best interest.]

The Board believes that school support organizations ("SSOs") provide invaluable assistance to the students of this Educational Service Center ("Center") and its programs and appreciates the efforts of all organizations whose objectives are to enhance the educational experiences of Center students, to help meet educational needs of students, and/or provide extra educational benefits not provided for, at the time, by the Board. The Board encourages parents and staff to participate in such organizations.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined as follows:

SSOs : include the following: Booster Club, Foundation, Parent Teacher Association ("PTA"), Parent Teacher Organization ("PTO"), Parent Teacher Support Association, or any other nongovernmental organization or group of persons whose primary purpose is to support a Center, school, school

club, or academic, arts, athletic or social activities related to a school, that collects or receives money, materials, property or securities from students, parents, or members of the general public.

[ ] A group of people who merely request that students, parents, or members of the general public make donations to a Center, school, school club, or academic, arts, athletic, or social activity related to a school or assist in the raising of funds for a specified purpose under the sponsorship of a school employee where the funds are turned over to the school to be used for the specific purpose for which the funds were raised, shall not be considered a SSO. **[END OF OPTION]**

Donation : Any gift or contribution of money, materials, property, or securities from any nongovernmental source received by a school official or employee for the benefit of a Center, school, school club, or academic, arts, athletic, or social activity related to a school.

Internal School Funds : Any and all money received and accounted for at individual schools by school administration, and specifically include, but are not limited to: (a) Any donation or grant made to the school, a school club, or any academic, arts, athletic or social activity related to a school; (b) Funds for cafeteria services operated at the school; (c) Fees collected by the school; (d) Funds transferred to the local school from the School Board that are to be accounted for at the local school level; (e) Funds raised through cooperative agreements with outside organizations; (f) Rental fees charged outside entities for use of school facilities; and (g) Student activity funds.

The **( )** Superintendent **( )** Principal **[END OF OPTION]** is authorized to provide support and assistance as appropriate upon the request of such an organization.

[ ] Prior Approval Process

Before the SSO may begin soliciting, raising, or collecting money, materials, property, or securities to support a Center, school, school club, or any academic, arts, athletic, or social activity or event related to a school, the SSO shall submit documentation to the Center that, at a minimum, documents the following:

A. The SSO's status as a nonprofit organization, foundation, or a chartered member of a nonprofit organization or foundation established in accordance with State and Federal law and regulations; **( )** which is required as a condition of being approved by the Board **( )** provided, however, that nothing in this section shall require that the organization be a 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code, codified in 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3); **[END OF OPTIONS] [DRAFTING NOTE: State law does not require an entity to be a nonprofit corporation or to obtain nonprofit status to operate in Ohio. However, entities which do not obtain this important designation may be required to pay income taxes and penalties for any fund raised, and donors may not be able to claim a tax deduction. Additionally, individuals who operate the entity may increase their risk of being personally liable in some circumstances. Because of**

these risks, Boards may wish to require that an entity be registered as a nonprofit and obtain 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS.]

B. The goals and objectives of the SSO; and

C. The telephone number, address, and position of each officer of the organization.

[ ] Additionally, prior to approving an SSO, the Superintendent shall:

A. review the objectives of the SSO to determine that relevant educational needs are being addressed;

B. monitor the plans and activities of the SSO for compliance with laws, Board policies, and any administrative guidelines;

[END OF OPTION]

[ ] Annual Requirements

[ ] The SSO shall annually, before the beginning of the school year, submit documentation to the Center verifying its continued existence as a nonprofit organization. The digital form shall document, at a minimum:

A. the goals and objectives of the organization; and

B. the current telephone number, address, and position of each officer of the organization.

[ ] The SSO shall file a statement of total revenues and disbursements at the end of the school year.

[ ] The SSO shall also annually provide a digital record of an annual remittance of insurance coverage.

[ ] Approval is required before an SSO undertakes any fundraising activity that will raise funds for a school purpose to ensure there will be minimal conflicts in the scheduling of fundraisers. This approval shall not make the fundraising activity a school-sponsored activity.

[ ] The Center shall post or publish a list of organizations that have complied with State law and the requirements detailed in this policy. This posting or publication will be published by _____ on the Center's website.

[ ] Any SSO that has met the requirements of this policy and is officially listed on the Center's website, the Board will provide annual training to, at a minimum, the officers of the SSO to aid in full compliance with these established standards.

[END OF OPTIONS]

[ ] Recordkeeping Requirements

All SSOs shall maintain, at a minimum, the following:

A. detailed statements of receipts and disbursements;

B. minutes of any meetings; and

C. a copy of its charter, bylaws, State or Federal filings and registrations, and documentation of its recognition as a nonprofit organization by the IRS and the State of Ohio.

[ ] The SSO records shall be maintained for a period of at least four (4) years and be available upon request by any member of the Center community.

[ ] Upon request, the SSO shall provide to the Center, or any authorized and appropriate Auditor, access to all books, records, and bank account information for the organization.

[END OF OPTIONS]

[ ] SSO Officer Responsibilities

The SSO officers shall be responsible for the following:

A. safeguarding the SSO funds;

B. assuring that the funds are spent only for purposes related to the goals and objectives of the SSO; and

C. adopting and maintaining appropriate written policies for the SSO specifying reasonable procedures for accounting, controlling, and safeguarding any money, materials, property, or securities collected or disbursed by it.

[ ] SSO officers who become aware of a potential violation of board policy or the law, or become aware of circumstances which might threaten an organization's good standing with a state or federal government agency or the school community, shall promptly report their concerns to the Superintendent.

[ ] All the voting members of any SSO board shall not be Center staff members.

[ ] A Center staff member may not be a treasurer or bookkeeper for an SSO. Further, a staff member shall not be the signatory on the checks of an SSO.

[END OF OPTIONS]

[ ] Limitation of Liability

The Superintendent shall require each SSO's fundraising activities comply with all applicable Board policies including, but not limited to, the requirement that, if approved, fundraisers that involve the sale to students of food items or beverages to be consumed on campus can only be conducted from thirty (30) minutes following the close of the last lunch period until thirty (30) minutes after the end of the school day.

All disbursements of donations shall comply with State and Federal law as well as the provisions in Policy 6608 - Accountability and Oversight of Fundraiser and Crowdfunding Disbursements. Staff members and Board-approved volunteers shall not receive any compensation from an SSO.

[ ] SSOs shall indemnify and hold the Board harmless from and against any and all claims and causes of action arising out of or related to the SSOs' acts and omissions in carrying out their activities. The Center, Board, or any Board staff member shall not incur any liability for the recognition of an SSO or the SSO's failure to safeguard school support organization funds.

[ ] SSOs shall purchase liability insurance (riders – self-insured) to cover such indemnification and to protect the SSO and Board against claims for damage or injury resulting from any act or omission on the part of the SSO. The amount of insurance coverage shall not be less than $1,000,000, and the SSO shall provide the Board with sufficient digital documentation demonstrating that the Board is named as an additional insured on the policy.

[ ] The Board may require additional coverage for on-site events.

[ ] The Board may offer the opportunity for any authorized SSO to receive coverage under the Board's liability insurance program to protect the entity against claims resulting from damage or injury resulting from any act or omission of the SSO. The SSO shall pay for such coverage.

[END OF OPTIONS]

[ ] Required Compliance Measures

[ ] Any organization described in this policy must obtain an advance written cooperative agreement from **( )** the Superintendent **( )** Building Principal or Superintendent **( )** the Board **[END OF OPTION]** before using any of the Center's logos or name **( )** as well as the Center's or school's slogans, specifically: _____, _____ **[DRAFTING NOTE: Identify any specific slogans or taglines that would identify a connection to the Center or a school] [END OF OPTION]** for the purpose of describing or promoting the organization or any activity of the organization.

[ ] By the start of each year, each group shall submit its tentative goals and objectives along with its fundraising plans for the next school year to the Superintendent for review by the Board.

Should the goals and objectives or fundraising plans change during the school year, the Superintendent is to be advised before any final revisions are made.

[ ] The Superintendent shall ensure that the Board receives an annual accounting of each group's receipts and expenditures by no later than _____ of each year.

[END OF OPTIONS]

Nondiscrimination

SSOs shall allow participation by parents, staff, and community members. All meetings should be communicated to the Center and/or school and be open to the public. SSOs shall not discriminate on the basis of a class of individuals protected by State and/or Federal law (collectively "Protected Classes").

Persons shall not be excluded from participation in SSOs based upon the extent or level of their past participation. Additionally, no individuals shall be threatened or pressured to join an SSO or encouraged to not join a particular group.

Other Rules and Procedures

The following additional rules and procedures shall govern the working relationships between the Board, staff, and any approved SSO. The Board may revoke formal recognition and suspend fundraising privileges of any SSO that fails to comply with these rules:

A. The Board relies upon approved SSOs to operate in a manner consistent with public expectations for the schools and reserves the right to withdraw sponsorship from any outside support organization that violates the bounds of community taste, including violating the law or board policies.

B. Membership should be available to staff, as appropriate, and members of the community in addition to parents.

C. SSOs shall work in cooperation with the Principal and other staff members and shall abide by the policies of the Board. It shall be the responsibility of each outside support organization to monitor its activities to ensure compliance with Board policy.

D. SSOs are encouraged to set goals that are consistent with those of the particular programs, activities, or sports being supported as articulated by the coach/advisor and/or athletic director of such program, activity, or sport, to avoid duplication of effort and to maximize the benefit to the organization or group.

E. SSOs must abide by the policies and procedures established for the use of Board facilities and grounds. Projects that require any modification or alteration to Board property must be pre-approved by the Superintendent.

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Legal
I.R.C. 170(f)(8)
I.R.C. 170(f)(12)
Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964
Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Americans with Disabilities Act

Mid-Ohio ESC

SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po9700

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Revised RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

9700 - **RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

Any request from civic institutions, charitable organizations, or special interest groups which involve such activities as patriotic functions, contests, exhibits, sales of products to and by students, sending promotional materials home with students, graduation prizes, fund raising, and free teaching materials must be carefully reviewed to ensure that such activities promote student interests.

It is the policy of the Board of Education that students, staff members, and District facilities not be used for promoting the interests of any nonschool agency or organization, public or private, without the approval of the Board or its designee; and any such approval, granted for whatever cause or group, shall not be construed as an endorsement of said cause or group by this Board.

A. **Political Interests**

All materials or activities proposed by outside political sources for student or staff use or participation shall be reviewed by the Superintendent or designee and no such approval shall have the primary purpose of advancing the special interest of the proposing group.

School facilities may not be used as a means of disseminating to the community any materials that advertises or promotes a political party, a political cause or the candidacy of

an individual for public office. Students and employees of the Board shall not be used to distribute campaign literature within the schools or on school grounds.

B. **Contests/Exhibits**

The Board recognizes that contests, exhibits, and the like may benefit individual students or the District as a whole, but participation in such special activities may not:

1. have the primary effect of advancing a special product, group, or company;
2. make unreasonable demands upon the time and energies of staff or students or upon the resources of the District;
3. involve any direct cost to the District;
4. interrupt the regular school program.

C. **Distribution/Posting of Literature**

No outside organization or staff member or student representing an outside organization may distribute or post literature on that organization's behalf on District property either during or after school hours without the permission and prior review of the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines that:

1. establish criteria concerning distribution or posting of student materials;
2. prohibit the use of the District or school mail system by the community, students or staff for distribution of nonschool-related materials unless authorized by the Superintendent/designee;
3. prohibit distribution of materials from any profit-making organization to students to take home to their parents unless authorized by the Superintendent/designee;
4. permit flyers and notices from outside non-profit organizations to be made available for students to pick-up at the literature distribution rack/table by the school building's office, under the following circumstances:
    a. the flyer/notice publicizes a specific community activity or event that is age-appropriate for the students that attend the school;
    b. permit flyers and notices from outside non-profit organizations to be made available for students to pick-up at the literature distribution rack/table by the school building's office, under the following circumstances:

c. the organization submits the number of copies of the flyer that it wants placed in the literature distribution rack/table;

d. the organization shows the Building Principal its 501(C)(3) or other proof of non-profit status, and the Principal confirms that the flyer/notice does not overtly advocate or entice support for any religious organization;

No student shall be required to take any of the flyers/notices placed in the literature/distribution rack/table, and the rack/table shall contain a clear notice that the Board does not support or endorse any of the organizations and/or activities/events identified in the flyers/notices.

5. establish and clearly communicate the time, place, and manner restrictions concerning the distribution of all nonschool-related materials;

D. **Solicitation of Funds**

Any outside organization or staff member representing an outside organization desiring to solicit funds on school property must receive permission to do so from the Superintendent/designee.

Permission to solicit funds will be granted only to those organizations or individuals who meet the permission criteria established in the District's administrative guidelines. Solicitation must take place at such times and places and in such a manner as specified in the administrative guidelines. In accordance with Board Policy 5830, no District student may participate in the solicitation without the Superintendent's approval.

The Board disclaims all responsibility for the protection of, or accounting for, such funds.

Solicited funds are not to be deposited in any regular or special accounts of the District.

A copy of this policy as well as the relevant administrative guidelines shall be given to any individual granted permission to solicit funds on District property.

This policy does not apply to the raising of funds for District-sponsored or school-sponsored activities.

E. **Prizes/Scholarship**

The Board of Education is appreciative of the generosity of organizations which offer scholarships or prizes to deserving students in this District. But, in accepting the offer of such scholarships or prizes, the Board directs that these guidelines be observed:

1. No information either academic or personal shall be released from the student's record for the purpose of selecting a scholarship or prize winner without the

permission of the student who is eighteen (18), or the parents of a student who is younger in accordance with the Board's policy on student records.

2. The type of scholarship or prize, the criteria for selection of the winner, and any restrictions upon it shall be approved by the Superintendent.

F. **Surveys and Questionnaires**

Neither District-related nor nondistrict-related organizations shall be allowed to administer a survey or questionnaire to students or staff unless the instrument and the proposed plan is submitted, in advance, to the Superintendent. If approved, a copy of the results and the proposed manner of their communication are to be provided to him/her for review and approval before they are released.

Students shall not be required to complete surveys to provide marketing information to vendors, or distribute to vendors any personal information of students, including but not limited to names, addresses, and telephone numbers, except as may be required by law. In addition, the District shall not enter into any contract for products or services, including electronic media services, where personal information will be collected from the students by the providers of the services.

See also Policy 2416 and AG 2416.

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Mid-Ohio ESC

SPECIAL UPDATE - SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS - OCTOBER 2026 CO

po9700.01

Special Update - School Support Organizations - October 2026 Revised ADVERTISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

ADOPTED Dec 16, 2026 · REVISED Nov 9, 2026

Revised Policy - Special Update - SSOs

9700.01 - **ADVERTISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the appropriate and inappropriate use of advertising or promoting of commercial products or services to students and parents in the schools.

"Advertising" comes in many different categories and forums and is defined as an oral, written, or graphic statement made by the producer, manufacturer, or seller of products, equipment, or services which calls for the public's attention to arouse a desire to buy, use, or patronize the product, equipment, or services. This includes the visible promotion of product logos for other than identification purposes. Brand names, trademarks, logos, or tags for product or service identification purposes are not considered advertising.

~~**[DRAFTING NOTE: CHOOSE OPTION #1 OR OPTION #2; SELECTION OF OPTION #1 PRECLUDES SELECTION OF OPTION #2 (CANNOT CHOOSE BOTH OPTION #1 AND OPTION #2)]**~~

~~**[ ] [OPTION #1]**~~

~~It is the policy of the Governing Board that advertising shall not be permitted in Educational Service Center ("Center") facilities or on Center property and that the Center's name, students, staff members, and Center facilities shall not be used for any commercial advertising or otherwise promoting the interests of any commercial, political, nonprofit, or other non-school agency or organization, public or private.~~

~~**[END OF OPTION # 1]**~~

~~**[OR]**~~

[X] ~~**[OPTION #2]**~~

The Governing Board may permit advertising in Center facilities or on Center property in the following categories or forums in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein:

A. **(X) Product Sales:**

1. **(X)** product sales benefiting a Center, school, or student activity (e.g., the sale of beverages or food within schools);

2. **(X)** exclusive agreements between the Center and businesses that provide the businesses with the exclusive right to sell or promote their products or services in the schools (e.g. pouring rights contracts with soda companies);

3. **(X)** fundraising activities (e.g., short-term sales of gift wrap, cookies, candy, etc.) to benefit a specific student population, club, or activity, where the school receives a share of the profits.

B. **(X) Direct Advertising/Appropriation of Space:**

1. **(X)** signage and billboards in schools and school facilities;

2. **(X)** corporate logos or brand names on school equipment (e.g., marquees, message boards, or score boards);

3. **(X)** ads, corporate logos, or brand names on book covers, student assignment books, or posters;

4. **(X)** ads in school publications (newspapers , ~~and~~ yearbooks , and event programs);

5. **(X)** media-based electronic advertising (e.g., Channel One or Internet or web-based sponsorship);

6. **(X)** free samples (e.g., of food or personal hygiene products).

C. **(X) Indirect Advertising:**

1. **(X)** corporate-sponsored instructional or educational materials, teacher training, contests, incentives, grants, or gifts;

2. **(X)** the Board approves the use of instructional materials developed by commercial organizations, such as films and videos, only if the educational ~~education~~ value of the materials outweighs their commercial nature.

   The films or materials shall be carefully evaluated by the school principal for classroom use to determine whether the films or materials contain undesirable propaganda and are in compliance with the guidelines as set forth above.

3. ~~**( ) Market Research:**~~

   1. ~~**( )** surveys or polls related to commercial activities;~~

   2. ~~**( )** internet surveys or polls asking for information related to commercial activities;~~

   3. ~~**( )** tracking students' internet behavior and responses to questions calling for personal identification at one (1) or more websites.~~

   4. ~~**( )** _____ **[other]** .~~

~~**[END OF OPTION # 2]**~~

It is further the policy of the Board that its name, students, staff members, and Center facilities shall not be used for any commercial advertising or otherwise promoting the interests of any commercial, political, nonprofit, or other non-school agency or organization, public or private, without the approval of the Board or its designee.

Any commercial advertising shall be structured in accordance with the General Advertising Guidelines set forth below.

General Advertising Guidelines

The following guidelines shall be followed with respect to any form of advertising on school grounds or school property **(X)**, including the Center's website ~~- [END OF OPTION]~~ :

A. **(X)** When working together, schools and businesses must protect educational values. All commercial or corporate involvement should be consistent with the Center's educational standards and goals.

B. **(X)** Any advertising that may become a permanent or semi-permanent part of a school requires prior approval of the Board.

C. **(X)** The Board reserves the right to consider requests for advertising in the schools on a case-by-case basis.

D. **(X)** No advertisement shall promote or contain references to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, drug paraphernalia, weapons, or lewd, vulgar, obscene, pornographic , or illegal materials or activities, gambling, violence, hatred, sexual conduct or sexually explicit material, X or R rated movies, or gambling aids.

E. **(X)** No advertisement shall promote any specific religion or religious, ethnic , or racial group, political candidate or political ideology, or ballot issue, and shall be non-proselytizing.

F. **(X)** No advertisement may contain libelous material.

G. **(X)** No advertisement may be approved which would tend to create a substantial disruption in the school environment or inhibit the functioning of any school.

H. **(X)** No advertisement shall be false, misleading, or deceptive.

I. **(X)** To the extent feasible, each **(X)** Each ~~- [END OF INTERNAL OPTION]~~ advertisement must be reviewed in advance for age appropriateness.

J. **(X)** Advertisements may be rejected by the Center if determined to be inconsistent with the educational objectives of the Center, inappropriate, or inconsistent with the guidelines set forth in this policy.

K. **(X)** All corporate support or activity must be consistent with the Board's policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of any Protected Class, consistent with Board Policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity in any of its student programs and activities ~~on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age, and must be age-appropriate~~.

L. **(X)** Students shall not be required to advertise a product, service, company, or industry.

M. **(X)** Advertising will not be permitted on the outside or the inside of school buses.

N. **(X)** The Superintendent or designee is responsible for screening all advertising **(X)** unless it is not feasible to do so, and the advertising is linked to a contract approved by the Board that expressly requires the vendor who is selecting and running the advertisement(s) to comply with these General Advertising Guidelines ~~- **[END OF INTERNAL OPTION]**~~.

O. **(X)** The Superintendent or designee may require that samples of advertising be made available for inspection.

P. **(X)** The inclusion of advertisements in Center publications, in Center facilities, or on Center property does not constitute or imply approval and/or endorsement of any product, service, organization, or activity.

Q. **(X)** Final discretion regarding whether to advertise and the content and value of the materials will be with the Board.

[END OF OPTIONS]

In addition to the guidelines set forth in this policy, the Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines addressing Administrative Guideline 9700B - ~~the~~ Criteria for Commercial Messages and the process by which advertising shall be accomplished. ~~(See AG 9700B.)~~

Accounting

Advertising revenues must be properly reported and accounted for.

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