

## CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS

**Date of Adoption:** March 27, 2003

The Superintendent shall approve participation in extracurricular contests sponsored by organizations outside the schools, as long as participation enhances the instructional program. When such contests involve promotional aid, school time, or faculty assistance to students in essay writing, poster making, or other activities, the Superintendent shall determine whether the experiences are closely enough aligned to and in support of the instructional work of the school and will clearly serve to advance the educational aims of the district. The worthiness of the sponsoring agency's cause or the opportunity for individuals to win prizes shall not in themselves constitute sufficient reason for approving a contest.

Contests and awards whether local, state or national shall be:

- For the benefit of the student;
- Open to all students on a nondiscriminatory basis;
- Consistent with district objectives;
- Judged by disinterested parties;
- Properly supervised with safety precautions in place;
- Voluntary for students and teachers.

Contests and awards shall not place undue time or financial burdens on students, teachers and parents; and participation shall not be dependent on the financial status of the student. Contests shall not promote commercial products or partisan viewpoints.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

**Legal Reference:**

NJSA 18A:11-1	General Mandatory Powers and Duties
NJSA 18A:42-2	School Orchestra Not to Compete with Civilian Musicians; exceptions
NJSA 18A:54-20	Powers of Board (county vocational schools)

**Supersedes Policy 1322 dated October 24, 1967.**