

**BUSINESS AND NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS**

**ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT FUNDS FOR CERTIFICATED SALARIES AND BENEFITS**

The Governing Board recognizes that members of the community are often willing to make voluntary contributions that will provide additional funds for the District. The District welcomes funds to supplement the education of our students by parent and community organizations through fund-raising efforts and donations. However, the Board cautions groups regarding raising funds to support personnel or programs that have ongoing costs beyond one school year that the Board would be unable to continue should the donated funds be exhausted.

The Governing Board believes students served by the District are entitled to an equitable educational experience regardless of the school they attend. When funds are raised by private sources that would affect the certificated staffing ratio, the District shall accept those funds only on the condition that they are sufficient to allow the program to be offered at all schools. The District retains the right to select and employ all employees.

To ensure financial stability, the Board retains the option of requiring that gift funds cover all costs associated with programs or projects for which the funds are intended. A written letter of intent to fund-raise, and the actual funds for such programs or projects, must be received by the District in accordance with established District timelines.

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Legal Reference:

**EDUCATION CODE**

35160 Authority of Governing Boards commencing January 1, 1976

41032 Authority of School Board to accept gift or bequest; investments; gift of land requirements

51521 Fund-raising Projects

**COURT DECISIONS**

Serrano v. Priest 1976, 18 Cal. 3d 728

**WEB SITES**

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html>

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ADOPTED: 11/03

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