

Public Activities Involving Staff or Students**CONTESTS**

I. Contest Selection: Procedures

All contests conducted in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools must be recommended by the District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force and approved by the Superintendent of Schools. The membership of the District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force shall include representatives from each school level (elementary, middle, senior), the Region level, the District office and the exclusive bargaining unit for teachers. Additionally, a School Board member shall serve as an ex-officio member.

- A. It shall be the duty of the District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force to review all requests for contests and recommend to the Superintendent of Schools those which meet the criteria established by the National Contest Committee Association of Secondary School Principals.
- B. The list of contests approved by the Superintendent of Schools will be sent to schools and notification mailed to sponsoring agencies.
- C. No contest of a districtwide nature that has not been recommended by the District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force and approved by the Superintendent of Schools shall be conducted during the school year.
- D. No contest shall be allowed before September 1 or after April 1 unless it is a national contest that requires participation at a definite time.
- E. Deadline for accepting applications for consideration for contests for the next school year shall be July 31, but they may be received any time prior to this date. Applications received after this date must be reviewed and approved by a committee composed of at least three members of the District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force and recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.
- F. Teachers are not to screen entries for any contest unless provision was made for this at the time the contest was approved.
- G. The District Ad Hoc Contest Task Force reserves the right to approve or disapprove the rules under which the contest is offered.

An Application for Contest Approval must be completed and filed by the sponsoring organization or individual. Such forms are available in the Division of Athletics/Activities and Accreditation.

II. Contest Selection: Criteria

Contests that meet the following criteria may be advertised and, where appropriate, used in conjunction with daily instruction, providing the contest:

- A. Supplements and does not interfere with the regular school program;

- B. Is beneficial to youth in educational, civic, social, or ethical development;
- C. Makes it possible for individual students to work out contributions by their own efforts and does not invite dishonest collaboration;
- D. Is not commercial, controversial, sectarian, or concerned with propaganda;
- E. Does not exclude any participant because of race, color, creed, citizenship status, national origin, disability, payment of entry fee, or sex; (This restriction on sex shall not prohibit contest promotion by organizations exempted from the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.)

(Some contests are designed to benefit the welfare of specific student groups, and therefore, may not meet all of these nondiscriminatory provisions. Since it is not the purpose of this rule to disallow these specific groups of students from gaining the benefits of these contests, the Superintendent of Schools may authorize principals to notify students of their existence. However, the contest may not be used in conjunction with daily instruction nor shall the school assist in facilitating student participation.)

- F. Does not place an undue burden on students, teachers, or the school, nor require frequent or lengthy absences of participants from the schools;
- G. Is sponsored by an organization engaged in a creditable or acceptable enterprise regardless of kind or number of prizes offered and that must not use the contest or activity as a "front" for advertising a company name or product; and
- H. Emphasizes high moral standards, good citizenship, and intellectual competence.

Approval of all contests is permissive in nature and in no way obligates the individual school to participate. The school must decide whether the contests fit into the instructional program of that particular school.

The responsibility for getting information to the schools and promoting the contests rests with the sponsoring agency.

Specific Authority: 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(22); 1001.43(10) F.S.
Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 1001.41(3) F.S.

History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
Repromulgated: 12-11-74
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