

### RELATIONS WITH POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (Public Funds)

The board believes in the importance of democracy and the rights of citizens to be involved in politics, but recognizes state and federal law that prohibits schools from seeking to influence elections.

School district funds, whether derived from local, state, or federal sources, will not be used for the purposes of influencing elections or ballot measures to be decided by the community or statewide voters.

The school will not accept any funds, grants, or gifts for election costs from any source other than the governing body of a political subdivision, the state, or the federal government, except for gifts of a nominal and intrinsic value as defined by the South Dakota State Board of Elections.

The school will, in keeping with state and federal law, offer factual information on ballot measures that have the potential to affect district operation, including, opt-out campaigns and bond campaigns, to the public for the purpose of educating voters.

School resources, including staff time, shall not be used for political purposes.

#### **Legal References:**

SDCL 12-1-11	Costs paid by county and restriction on acceptance of election costs
SDCL 12-18-3	Actions prohibited near polling place
SDCL 12-27-20	<u>Expenditure of public funds to influence election outcome prohibited</u>

1<sup>st</sup> Reading-6/21/2016

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-7/19/2016

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