

Fundraising Activities

There is a wide variety of ways a school community can show support for its local school, or the broader school community, including fundraising. Consistency with these guiding principles and school board policies and procedures should be considered when conducting any fundraising activity.

The Province provides capital funding for the construction of new schools and additions, for repairs and renovations, and for the operation and maintenance of schools, including heating, lighting and cleaning. Funds raised for school purposes are to be used to complement, not replace, public funding for education. (For additional information on education funding, please see <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/funding/index.html>).

Capital projects supported by fundraising proceeds⁴ should:

- Be complementary to publicly funded education;
- Not result in an increase in the student capacity of a school⁵; and
- Not result in a significant increase in school or board operating or capital costs.

Fundraising activities must be compliant with:

- Municipal, provincial, and federal legislation; and
- Ministry of Education guidelines and policies, such as the School Food and Beverage Policy, Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy, Facility Partnerships Guideline and the Broader Public Sector Procurement Directive.

Examples of Unacceptable Uses of Fundraising Proceeds

- Items funded through provincial grants such as classroom learning materials and textbooks
- Facility renewal, maintenance, or upgrades funded through provincial grants such as structural repairs, sanitation, emergency repairs, or replacing flooring due to wear and tear

⁴ This guideline does not address joint-use facilities; please refer to Facility Partnerships Guideline (February 11, 2010) http://faab.edu.gov.on.ca/Memos/B2010/B_%201%20Attach%20%20Facility%20Partnerships%20Guideline.pdf

⁵ As defined by the Ministry of Education's pupil place capacity.

- Infrastructure improvements which increase the student capacity of a school or are funded by provincial grants (for example, classrooms, additions, gyms, labs)
- Goods or services for employees, where such purchases would contravene the

Education Act or a school council's by-laws regarding conflict of interest

- Professional development including support for teacher attendance at professional development activities
- Administrative expenses not associated with fundraising activity. Any administrative expenses associated with fundraising activity should be minimized.
- Support for partisan political activity, groups or candidates.

Examples of Acceptable Uses of Fundraising Proceeds

- Assistance fund (for example, a fund serving a charitable purpose to benefit students, such as providing payment for the cost of a field trip for students who cannot afford it)
- Supplies, equipment or services which complement items funded by provincial grants (for example, extracurricular band equipment, audio-visual equipment)
- Field trips or other excursions (for example, in-province, out-of-province, or trips abroad)
- Guest speakers or presentations
- Ceremonies, awards, plaques, trophies or prizes for students
- Scholarships or bursaries
- Extracurricular activities and events (for example, travel and entry fees for sports competitions, school team uniforms, school band, choir, clubs)
- School yard improvement projects (for example, playground equipment, shade structures, gardens, outdoor skating rink)
- Upgrades to sporting facilities such as running tracks, installation of artificial turf and scoreboards
- Support for activities that are unique to the denominational or cultural character of the school (for example, student retreats).