

RELIGIOUS MUSIC

Religious music may be sung or played as part of the academic study of music. School concerts that present a variety of selections may include religious music. Concerts should avoid programs dominated by religious music.

At all levels, the study of religious music as part of a musical appreciation course, as a musical experience, or as part of a study of various lands and cultures can be included. In all public school programs and study, care must be taken to avoid presentation of music as a celebration of a particular religion or religious holiday. Teachers must be especially sensitive to the feelings of students who might wish not to participate for religious reasons.

RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS

The use of religious symbols, provided they are used only as examples of cultural or religious heritage, is permissible as a teaching aid or resource. Religious symbols may be displayed only on a brief basis as part of the academic program. Students may choose to incorporate religious symbols into their work, but teachers should not assign or suggest such creations.

Some symbols considered secular in nature have significant religious overtones or foundations. Teachers must be alert to the distinction between teaching about religious holidays and other cultural events, which is permissible, and celebrating religious holidays, which is not. Seasonal symbols may be used as a teaching aid and displayed briefly as part of a broad cultural study.

Approved by the Board of Education, June 1996.

1.37 SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUND

The Board of Education of Jenks Public Schools is committed to the support of patron participation to benefit the educational goals and student involvement within the District. The Board further supports the philosophy that all funds raised by parent organizations be expended in a timely manner for the benefits of students who are currently in attendance at a respective site or participating in an activity.

All receipts shall be deposited in the school activity fund in a timely manner, (one [1] day) without holding substantial amounts of money (one hundred dollars [\$100.00] or more) in the local building. All disbursements shall be made by checks prepared by the school activity fund custodian in the same manner prescribed by the Oklahoma Statutes and Oklahoma State Department of Education for other disbursements from that fund. Procedures are outlined in the Activity Fund Handbook.

1.38 SANCTIONING POLICY FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAMS AND PTA

The Board of Education of the Jenks School District believes that student achievement programs and parent-teacher associations and organizations can advance the educational goals of the Board of Education and confer a benefit to the students of the school District.

It is the purpose of this policy to establish guidelines for the sanctioning of student achievement programs and parent-teacher associations and organizations that raise money and collect revenues for the benefit of students. Only those student achievement programs and parent-teacher associations and organizations sanctioned in accordance with this policy will be exempt from the statutory controls over school activity funds found in OS Title 70, Section 5-129.

Sanctioning Procedure for Student Achievement Programs and Parent-Teacher Associations and Organizations

1. The District may sanction student achievement programs and parent-teacher associations and organizations that, according to the Board's determination, advance the educational objectives of the school District, are beneficial to students and meet the requirements of this policy.
2. In determining whether a student achievement program or a parent-teacher association or organization should be sanctioned by the school District, the Board of Education may consider:

if the program, association, or organization promotes activities that are an extension, expansion, or application of the school District curriculum;

if the program, association, or organization assists student government or activities in carrying out special projects or responsibilities;

if the program, association, or organization assists student clubs, organizations, and other student groups in raising funds to promote activities approved by the Board of Education; and supplemental information provided by the student achievement program or by a parent-teacher association or organization in support of its application.

3. A written statement by a student achievement program or by a parent-teacher association or organization to the Board of Education requesting sanctioning shall include the following: a statement of its purpose, goals, organizational structure, and membership requirements; a detailed statement of how the District and its students will benefit if the organization is sanc-

tioned; a statement of non-discrimination consistent with all Oklahoma and federal laws; and a financial audit which has been performed on such program, association, or organizations by an independent accounting firm. The program, association, or organization must be managed or operated by adults, rather than students.

4. The written statement shall be submitted to the Superintendent for preliminary review. After the program, association, or organization's written statement has been reviewed by the Superintendent, the Superintendent shall make a recommendation to the Board of Education. The Board of Education shall review the written statement and shall sanction or decline to sanction the applicant. The decision of the Board of Education is final and non-appealable.
5. The Board will establish two (2) categories of student achievement programs, parent-teacher associations, or organizations for sanctioning purposes.

Type A—The Board may sanction any student-achievement program, parent-teacher association, or organization that is organized under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code to maintain bank, financial, and tax exempt status separate from the school activity fund if that program, association, or organization satisfies and accepts the requirements outlined in this policy and on the application for sanctioning form.

Type B—The Board may sanction any student achievement program, parent-teacher association, or organization that satisfies and accepts the requirements outlined in this policy and on the application for sanctioning form to maintain a bank account outside of the school activity fund for emergency purposes, with requirements as follows:

All current outside bank balances would be deposited in the school activity fund in a sub-account designated for the program, association, or organization.

The program, association, or organization would request a check from the school activity fund in any amount up to two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to be deposited in an outside bank account as a Petty Cash Account for "emergency purchases" including, but not limited to, food, accommodations, or any other purchase where the provider of services or merchandise will not charge to the school activity fund. These purchases will not be tax exempt.

When the outside account needs to be replenished, as determined by the program, associa-

tion, or organization, the receipts for those expenditures would be presented to the school activity fund custodian and a check would be written for that amount to be deposited in the outside account to restore it to the original deposit that established the account. The program, association, or organization would agree to deposit receipts from all sources into its activity fund sub account.

6. All funds raised by the program, association, or organization will be used to achieve the stated purposes and goals of the program, association, or organization. No administrative fees or stipends to officers, school employees, or others will be permitted.
7. Any plan, project, or movement by a sanctioned student achievement program or parent-teacher association or organization instituted to expand, modernize, renovate, or render maintenance to school-controlled and/or owned properties will be presented to the Board in official session for its consideration, comment, evaluation, approval, and sponsorship. This must be done before any public announcement is made.
8. The Application Form is a part of this policy. Request for sanctioning will be accepted only on the application form provided by the District. Application form is available in the Finance Office.
9. Completed applications for sanctioning will be submitted to the District before April 30, and notification of sanctioning status will be given by June 15.
10. Any group eligible for sanctioning that does not present an application for sanctioning is automatically in the School Activity Fund and may not maintain an account outside that Fund.
11. Any student achievement program, parent-teacher association, or organization that is organized for the benefit of the students that is not within the School Activity Fund or has not been sanctioned will not be allowed to use school facilities or students for fund-raising activities nor be allowed to contribute to the support of any District activity.

The Board of Education has the discretion to sanction or decline to sanction any group or organization, and the decision of the Board of Education is final and non-appealable.

The Board of Education may, at any time, request the records maintained by the group or organization.

The Board of Education may, at any time it believes it is in the best interest of the District to do so, withdraw sanctioning, and the decision of the Board of Education is final and non-appealable.

Revised by the Board of Education, March 1997.