

## **PUBLIC GIFTS/DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOLS**

The Board may accept, on behalf of the school unit, any bequest or gift of money or property for a purpose deemed suitable by the Board in accordance with state law. All gifts shall be accepted in the name of the school unit and become the property of the school unit, but may be designated for use in a particular school or department by the donor. The Board will officially acknowledge the gifts at a Board meeting and thank the donors in writing.

Board must approve all scholarships provided in its name. Such scholarships will be monitored annually and financial activity reported to the Board Finance Committee as it occurs.

Gifts of equipment, supplies, or educational resources for a particular classroom, department, or athletic team cannot be accepted if the gift would create inequity in access to resources as determined by the school principal, or in the case of athletics, the athletic director.

Teachers or coaches are not permitted to accept gifts of any kind or amounts directly from individuals or groups.

Any gift that requires endorsement of a product or business, or that includes advertising, must have prior approval of the RSU 13 School Board before the gift is accepted.

The Board is under no obligation to replace a gift if it is destroyed, lost, stolen or becomes worn out. Gifts will not be accepted if they involve an excessive cost for maintenance or installation. If installation is required, the gift shall be installed under the supervision of school unit personnel. The Superintendent will notify in writing prospective donors if their gift cannot be accepted.

RSU 13 will provide documented acknowledgement of gifts for tax purposes at the donor's request, but will not declare a value of the gifted items or services.

Legal Reference:       20-A MRSA § 1256 (MSAD)  
                              20-A MRSA § 4005 (ALL)  
                              20-A MRSA § 1705 (CSD)

Approved: September 4, 2014