

725 -Fundraising Policy

Approved by the Board of Directors on August 22, 2013

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish George Washington Academy (“GWA”) policies and procedures governing the initiation, authorization, and review of all fundraising activities of GWA. This policy is intended to create practices that adequately safeguard public funds, provide for accountability, and ensure compliance with state and federal laws.

GWA encourages community and business partnerships that enhance and supplement the public education system. GWA also desires to protect students, parents, teachers, and school administrators from over-commercialization and fundraising efforts that are coercive and disruptive to the education processes, threatening to the health and welfare of students, or lacking in educational merit.

B. SCOPE

This policy applies to all GWA administrators, licensed educators, staff members, students, organizations, volunteers and individuals who initiate, authorize, or participate in fundraising events or activities for GWA-sponsored events.

It is expected that in all dealings, GWA and school employees will act ethically and consistent with GWA’s ethics training, the Utah Educators Standards, the Public Officers’ and Employees’ Ethics Act, and State procurement law.

C. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS FOR GWA & GWA-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

1. “Public funds” are money, funds, and accounts, regardless of the source from which the funds are derived, that are owned, held, or administered by the state or any of its political subdivisions, including GWA (Utah Code 51–7–3[26]).
2. Fundraising is permitted within GWA to allow GWA to raise additional funds to supplement school-sponsored academic and co-curricular programs.
3. “School-sponsored” means activities, fundraising events, clubs, camps, clinics, programs, sports, etc., or events, or activities that are authorized by GWA that support GWA or authorized curricular school clubs, activities, sports, classes or programs that also satisfy one or more of the following criteria. The activity:
 - a. Is managed or supervised by a/an school employee.
 - b. Uses the GWA facilities, equipment, or other school resources.
 - c. Is supported or subsidized, more than inconsequently, by public funds, including the public school’s activity funds or minimum school program dollars.
 - d. Does not include non-curricular clubs specifically authorized and meeting all criteria of Utah Code 53A–11–1205 through 1208.
4. GWA is committed to principles of gender equity and compliance with Title IX guidance. GWA commits to use all facilities, unrestricted gifts and other available funds in harmony with these principles. GWA reserves the right to decline or restrict donations, gifts, and fundraising proceeds, including those that might result in gender inequity or a violation of Title IX.

Fundraising opportunities should be equitable for all students, comply with Title IX, and be in harmony with Article X of the Utah Constitution.

5. All fees for school-sponsored activities must be properly noticed and approved by the Board of Directors of GWA and are subject to fee waiver provisions in R277–407.
6. Principals, consistent with GWA policy, have the responsibility to waive fees, if appropriate. Individual teachers, coaches, advisors, etc. do not have the authority to waive board-approved fees.
7. Annually, each GWA division, department, or program and individual school will review all planned camps, clinics, activities, and fundraisers and determine those designated as school-sponsored.
8. All monies raised through fundraisers for GWA-sponsored activities are considered public funds. GWA is ultimately responsible for the expenditure and allocation of all monies collected and expended through student, GWA organized fundraising.
9. The collection of money associated with fundraisers for school-sponsored activities will comply with GWA cash receipting policies.
10. The expenditure of any public funds associated with fundraisers for school-sponsored activities will comply with GWA cash disbursement policies.
11. Properly approved school-sponsored activities may:
 - a. Use GWA’s name, facilities, and equipment.
 - b. Utilize GWA employees and other resources to supervise, promote, and otherwise staff the activity or fundraiser.
 - c. Be insured under GWA’s risk management policy (pending approval by the GWA risk manager) or general liability insurance policy.
 - d. Provide additional compensation or stipends for GWA employees with the approval of the Principal, Vice Principal, or immediate supervisor and under GWA payroll policies.
12. GWA-sponsored activities must comply with all fee approval and fee waiver provisions established in Utah Code and Utah State Board of Education rules. GWA may be responsible for providing student transportation for these activities.
13. Authorization and supervision of fundraising for school-sponsored activities:
 - a. Fundraising at GWA shall be approved in writing, prior to the activity, by the Principal or Vice Principal and supervised by GWA employee(s) designated by the Principal or Vice Principal. The approver shall ensure that the activity is appropriately classified as a GWA-sponsored activity.
 - b. Donations from individuals or organizations will follow GWA’s gift and donation policy.
 - c. The sale of banners, advertising, signs, or other promotional material that will be displayed on school property must be approved by the Principal or Vice Principal before the items are initiated or printed, and must meet community standards. Partisan or political advertising and advertising for products that are prohibited by law for sale or use by minors, such as alcohol, tobacco, or other substances that are known to endanger the health and well-being of students, are prohibited.
 - d. All fundraising projects for construction, maintenance, facilities renovation or improvement and other capital equipment purchases must be approved in writing by the Principal or Vice Principal and the GWA Board of Directors. (See capital fundraising section below.)

D. GENERAL FUNDRAISING STANDARDS FOR GWA & GWA SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

1. GWA reserves the right to prohibit, restrict or limit any fundraising activities associated with GWA.
2. Faculty and student participation in fundraisers is typically voluntary. However, employees may be directed to supervise specific activities as an employment assignment. Students, including fee-waiver-eligible students, may be required to participate fully in school, team, or group-wide fundraisers in order to benefit from fundraisers.
3. Participation in fundraising shall not affect a student's grade. Students shall not be required to participate in fundraising activities as a condition of belonging to a team, club or group, nor shall a student's fundraising effort affect his/her participation time or standing on any team, club or group, except as to fee waiver requirements.
4. Competitive enticements for participation in fundraisers are discouraged. If prizes or rewards are offered by a selected fundraising vendor, they should only be awarded to groups, classes or students, and must be disclosed and approved prior to the fundraiser. Rewards, prizes, commissions, or other direct or indirect compensation shall not be received by any teacher, activity, club or group director, or any other GWA employee or volunteer.
5. Schools may not impose a sales quota (or the like) as part of fundraising efforts, and students or parents shall not be required to pay for any unsold items, or pay for goals not met.
6. Door-to-door sales are prohibited for all students unless the student is accompanied by their legal parent or guardian. Suitable procedures must be used by GWA, administrators and supervising faculty to safeguard students and funds collected. Procedures must be clearly communicated to parents.
7. Approval may be denied for fundraising activities that would expose GWA to risk of financial loss or liability if the activity is not successful.
8. Fundraising activities shall be age appropriate, and shall maintain the highest standards of ethical responsibility and integrity.
9. Fundraising revenues should be accounted for at an individual contribution level or participation level. Participation logs should be retained and turned into the accounting office to be included with the deposit detail.
10. Employees who approve, manage, or oversee fundraising activities are required to disclose if they have a financial or controlling interest or access to bank accounts in a fundraising organization or company.
11. Records of all fundraising efforts shall be open to the parents, students and donors, including accurate reporting on participation levels and financial outcomes. This policy does not require the release of students' personally identifiable information protected by FERPA.

F. EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIPS & DISCLOSURE

1. Participation in Private or Non-GWA-Sponsored Events
 - a. GWA employees:
 - (1) May participate in a private but public education-related activity, such as LDS seminary graduation and firesides, extracurricular travel, etc.

- (2) Must ensure that personal participation in activities is separate and distinguishable from the employee's public employment, official job title, or job duties.
 - (3) May not contact students in GWA using education records or information obtained through public employment unless the records or information are available to the general public.
 - (4) May not use school time to discuss, promote, or prepare for a private or non-school-sponsored activity.
 - (5) May offer public education-related services, programs or activities to students, provided they are not advertised or promoted during school time or using any type or amount of school resources.
 - (6) May use school or student publications available to the general public to advertise and promote the private or non-GWA-sponsored activity.
 - (7) May not require private or non-GWA-sponsored activities for credit or participation in school programs.
 - (8) Must satisfy all requirements of Utah Code 53A-1-402.5, regarding ethical conduct standards, and R277-107, regarding educational services outside of the educator's regular employment.
2. GWA employees may purchase advertising space to promote private or non-school sponsored events in the same manner as the general public. GWA employee's employment and experience can be used to demonstrate qualifications. The advertisement must specifically state that the activity is not school-sponsored. (See R277-107-5 through 6.)
 3. GWA employees may engage in outside employment with a private entity or other separate organizations that does not interfere with GWA duties or job functions. Employees must complete the GWA disclosure agreement annually when engaging in outside employment that is similar to the employee's official job duties or functions.
 4. Parental notification is required if GWA students are recruited to participate in these activities.
 5. GWA employees may not set up bank accounts for activities or fundraisers associated with GWA responsibilities or job functions.
 6. GWA employees may not direct fees or fundraiser proceeds from GWA-sponsored activities to outside entities.
 7. GWA employees may not direct operating expenditures to outside funding sources or groups to avoid GWA procurement rules (such as equipment, uniforms, salaries or stipends, improvements, maintenance for facilities, etc.).
 8. GWA employees must comply with GWA procurement policies and procedures, including complying with competitive quotes; bid splitting; and not accepting gifts, gratuities, or kickbacks from vendors or other interested parties.