

Delegation Handout

Fundraising Policy Draft – May 1st, 2024

Terminology -

OFHSA is the acronym for the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, which is the provincial organization that all Home and School Associations receive their charter from.

1 - Under 'Guiding Principles', a new bullet line should be created which reads:
"The principal is required to work collaboratively, inclusively and respectfully with their school community and Home and School Association, if one exists in consideration of the school."

The rationale is to ensure that the wording of this policy upholds the efforts of families and organizations that work to support the community that schools are supposed to serve.

2 - 'Intended Outcomes' section, both following 'Guiding Principles' and again under 'Progress Indicators'. The first point should be corrected to include the following wording. We have used bold formatting to identify the addition:

"1) The Annual School Fundraising plan will monitor, communicate and document a school's fundraising initiatives. The school principal is responsible for the Fundraising Plan that includes all fundraising that the school staff and students participates in **(except for fundraising activities organized by Ontario Home and School Associations)**."

The rationale for this amendment is to clarify that fundraising done by the Home and School Association is not part of the school's 'Fundraising Plan', which is reported to the HWDSB. Association fundraisers, in which school staff and students participate in, are Association fundraisers where the funds are not part of the SGF. The inclusion of staff and students does not change this fact and so they are not 'school fundraisers'. Home and School Associations are not required to submit their fundraising plan to the HWDSB, or any other district school boards, because our funds are clearly legislated that they are not part of the SGF, whether fundraised through the school with staff and student participation, or outside of it. *A principal cannot be 'responsible' for fundraising plans where the funds are not part of the SGF.*

Our Associations are required to submit fundraising plans, budgets and projected incomes, along with financial verifications to our provincial federation in accordance with our charitable status and in line with the Education Act. Home and School Associations also have their own liability insurance and the ability to alter their fundraising plans under our governance.

3 - Under 'Action Required', the second-last point reads:

"When a Home and School Association fundraiser involves the participation of school staff, the principal is responsible for ensuring that all HWDSB fundraising and other procedures are followed."

The statement should be changed to:

"When a Home and School Association fundraiser involves the participation of school staff, the Association should obtain a copy of the HWDSB's fundraising policy and administrative procedures and abide by them as much as possible."

The rationale is that this reflects the wording our Associations follow under OFHSA's fundraising guidelines. It acknowledges our responsibility to respect the HWDSB's procedures and regulations, but also respects our autonomy as a partner in education and encourages positive collaboration with the school principal.

We are happy and available for follow up discussion regarding the wording of this policy draft.

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