

PTSA to PTSA Gifting Guidelines

Philosophy: Fundraising dollars should be used in the year within which they are raised.

Categories:

1 – Redistribution/reboundary of students

- Money does not follow students, money is part of the organization
- Think of sharing ideas of programs and events that students enjoy to give them some continuity

2 - New PTSA in established school

- This PTA may already have an established library, emergency prep supplies, etc
- Every school, including feeder schools, should consider a small gift of \$50-\$100 dollars for startup costs or any other amount that feels appropriate to your Board of Directors

3 – Brand New PTSA in new school

- Typically feeder school PTAs give larger gifts
- Every school should think about a gift of \$100-200 dollars
- Gifts other than money can be helpful.
 - Offering to help plan or run an event that parents who are leaving your school to go to the new one like
 - Offering to help with back to school plans, teacher back to school lunch
 - Offering books or vouchers, equipment, supplies such as napkins or notebooks

Learnings:

Potential Challenges:

- Auctions that can fund operating and program expenses for more than one year could experience decreased success as their donation is not being used during their child's tenure.
- Spring fundraisers (e.g. walk-a-thon)

Money does not follow students!

- Money should be spent in year it was collected
- Fundraising should not happen for fundraising sake, there should be targeted goals that members are aware of (e.g. teacher support, grants, curriculum enhancements – the more specific the better)
- Be thoughtful of what you raise money for as items that their student cannot participate in the following year aren't good choices (e.g. playground equipment). It might be better to wait a year.

Be aware of what feelings members might have:

- Hard feelings arise when parents have donated time and money to fund items that their student will not benefit from
- Parents are afraid that the new school won't have the great programs and events that they have loved at their current school.
- A member may make a motion at **any** General Membership meeting to give a greater gift or a smaller gift. Suggestions for handling this situation:
 - Table discussion and form committee to thoughtfully come up with recommendation
 - Update standing rules to state that budget changes over a certain dollar amount must be posted 10 days prior to the General Membership meeting.