

PSB Policy Regarding Gifts and Grants

School Committee Finance Subcommittee
May 21, 2025

Section D.5 (pages 5-6)

SECTION D

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

5. Grant Fund Proposals and Applications: (Voted 12/21/82, #82-533)

The School Committee encourages grant funding proposals and applications for any projects that supplement school programs in useful and beneficial ways. To this end:

1. The Administration shall make the appropriate surveys in order to be eligible for state and federal monies.
2. Prior to filing applications, the Administration shall inform the School Committee members via a memorandum explaining the purpose of the proposal and its relationship to existing or contemplated school programs.

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SECTION D FISCAL MANAGEMENT

7. Use of Revenues from Non-Tax Sources (Individual Donations, Grants, Private & PTO Fundraising):

(Voted 12/21/82, #82-533; 11/5/85, #85-459 & 460; 9/10/98, #98-81; 9/27/12, #12-58)

Public education is primarily the responsibility of the public and, therefore, the operating and capital budgets for the Public Schools of Brookline should reflect the will of the public to finance the schools through public revenues (tax sources). The Brookline School Committee welcomes additional revenues from non-tax sources as gifts to the Public Schools of Brookline to advance the priorities and educational goals established by the School Committee, provided such gifts are in accordance with state and federal law, existing local by-laws, and this policy, and provided the gift and/or its effects reflect the PSB core value of educational equity.

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Grants and Gifts from Private Sources:

In order to allocate supplemental funds equitably and in response to changing needs, the School Committee prefers grants and gifts from private sources to be unrestricted. In the event that a private source (including, but not limited to, charitable foundations, private corporations, or individuals) wish to restrict the use of funds:

1. The School Committee's approval of the restricted use must be secured prior to a vote to accept the gift, and such approval shall be subject to a determination by the Committee, in consultation with the Superintendent, that the following conditions are met:

- i. the gift is directed/restricted to a use consistent with an established priority of the School Committee as expressed in, for example, the Strategic Plan, Recommendations from Program Review, the Annual Budget, and/or the Capital Improvements Plan;
- ii. the gift supplements the use of public funds already committed to the intended program or project, or for which public funds are not yet sufficient or available;
- iii. the purpose and effect of the gift will not encumber substantial future public school funds for ongoing costs (including, but not limited to, support or maintenance) unless such spending is already planned for in the operating budget or anticipated in future budget years;
- iv. the effect of the gift will not create a permanent condition at or for an individual elementary school or its facility that creates a substantially inequitable overall experience for students at that school relative to those at the other PSB elementary schools.