

Student Incentive Guidelines

effective 04/01/2018

SVVSD recognizes that awarding reasonable incentives is one strategy that encourages student academic, social, leadership or athletic success. All incentives must support or celebrate student achievement within the District's curriculum programs, academic performance, attendance goals or other designated District programs. Incentives must be symbolic with minimal functional or intrinsic value such as, but not limited to, letters, plaques, trophies, medals, ribbons, certificates and letters of adornment and shall not exceed \$50.00 in value (exclusive of engraving).

This policy does not allow for the distribution of gifts to students by the District. Gifts are items given to an individual or a group that are not earned and are for personal use of the recipient. Gift certificates, gift cards and cash are considered gifts and are not allowed.

Schools are discouraged from using food or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior. Per the District's School Wellness Procedure 741-ADF, "Schools are encouraged to use extra physical activity such as extra recess, as a reward."

Exceptions to these guidelines must be approved in advance by Leadership Cabinet.

Examples:

Not allowed:

- Incentives for a robotics design challenge wanting to offer headphones or Sphero devices = not allowed as item exceeds \$50 threshold. Note: If item is purchased by Sphero, it can be given directly to student by Sphero. See *Corporate and External Incentives* below.
- Cash rewards for fundraising (jump for cash, cash grab) = not allowed as cash is considered a gift and not an allowed incentive.

Allowed:

- Tickets for good behavior and to be entered into a drawing if item is less than \$50.
- Trinkets, stickers and pencils, etc.

Corporate and External Incentives

Corporate and external incentives provided to the District (as opposed to directly to a student) become District property, including computer equipment, athletic equipment, headphones, etc.

If the incentive is given to an individual student directly by the corporation or other organization, including Parent Teacher Organizations, the incentive becomes the personal property of the student and is not considered an incentive provided by the District. In order to be considered personal property, the incentive at no time may be presented to the District or be in the possession of the District. Any vendor, group or organization that offers student incentives to support the District must

communicate with the District, prior to providing the incentive, to ensure its efforts are compatible with the District's educational goals. The District reserves the right to reject any student incentive. For risk and liability purposes, gifts certificates, gift cards or cash from external organizations may not be disbursed on District property. Gifts or merchandise with company logos must be approved by SVVSD Communications Department prior to being disbursed.

Examples:

Not allowed:

- A corporation wants to give cash awards to students for a design challenge. Not allowed to disburse cash to student(s) at awards ceremony if hosted at the school.
- Any incentive that violates Board Policy, Colorado Revised Statutes or other applicable laws.

Allowed:

- Sphero donates prize to PTO/Ed Foundation. PTO/Ed Foundation gives out award directly to student or parent. No threshold limit for donations from external party. Prize must be noted as donated from company (not the District) and announced when prize is presented.
- PTO offers to purchase iPad for parent information night to be given as door prize. Allowed if iPad is purchased by PTO, is noted in literature as purchased by PTO and announced when iPad is presented, preferably by PTO volunteer NOT District staff. Technology cannot be purchased through District Technology stores.
- Company wants to provide stipend for student who participated in program or activity. As long as the company provides stipend directly to student it is allowed. Flowing the stipend through the District is not allowed.