

**MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #53
Burnham – Detroit – Pittsfield**

Contests for Students

The MSAD #53 Board of School Directors believes the primary educational aims of the schools and the needs and interests of their students must be the most important consideration at all times. It shall therefore be a general policy for principals to deny promotional aid, school time, or faculty assistance to pupil contests, involving essay writing, poster making, or other activities sponsored by organizations outside the school.

Exceptions may be made if in the judgment of the administrator and with the concurrence of the superintendent, a particular contest involves experiences which are closely allied to and in support of the instructional work of the school and which will clearly serve to advance the educational aims of the school. The worthiness of the sponsoring agency's cause, or the opportunity for individuals to win prizes, shall not in themselves constitute sufficient reason for exception to the general policy.

Contests or projects, in general, should not interfere with the operation of the regular course of study in classes, or require a teacher to sacrifice time from the regularly planned program for students. Students shall not be required to participate in any contest as part of their grade.

Amended: April 8, 1996

Amended: January 8, 2007