

**Policy**

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PUBLIC PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS

The Mount Laurel Township School District Board of Education recognizes that worthy and appropriate educational values accrue from pupil participation in civic and community affairs. Instructors shall be encouraged to encourage students to participate in public performances when such performances are safe and supervised and do not pose a threat to the health, safety, and well-being of the students participating. Students may be encouraged to participate in public performances when they contribute to the educational process and objectives of that particular class and when it does not unduly interfere with other scheduled classes or activities within the school.

Individual student s and school groups may, with the permission of the principal and the approval of the chief school administrator, participate in local public events which fall into the following classifications:

- A. Events sponsored by the schools. Educational events in which the schools serve as hosts shall have priority in scheduling appearances;
- B. Community functions organized in the interests of the school such as those that might be originated by the parent-teacher groups or parent councils;
- C. Non-commercial civic occasions of community, county, state or national interest of sufficient breadth to enlist general support and cooperation;
- D. Events that are primarily patriotic in nature, such as Veteran's Day;
- E. Charity benefit activities provided such activity has been specifically approved in advance by the chief school administrator.

Prohibited Activities

Individual students and school groups may not represent the school in events that fall into any of the following classifications:

- A. Events that are for the purpose of private gain or for the advertising of any commercial project or product. A school name, the names of school-sponsored groups or school equipment shall not be exploited in events of a commercial nature;
- B. Events that are for the furtherance of any politically partisan interest. In questionable cases, the matter shall be referred to the board;
- C. Events that are primarily for the furtherance of any sectarian concern;
- D. Events that cause an undue amount of interference with the regular school program or that cause an excessive amount of absence due to rehearsal or preparation.

Procedures

Requests for student participation in out-of-district public performances or in fund raising events shall require the approval of the board. Performances by the student groups at district schools other than the school of attendance shall require the approval of the chief school administrator.

