

Pretty Hard ASB Questions and Answers

1. Q. I am the ASB bookkeeper for our Jr/Sr High School. I have a question for you regarding ASB cards. With the rising cost of athletics and everything else, the principal has asked me if we can raise the price of our ASB cards without the ASB officers voting before doing so.

A. Sorry, but no. The WAC requires students to be involved in the budget process and the school board approve the budget. So, the students would have to approve the new price and it would then go to the board. Is it possible to gather your ASB officers and amend the budget based on the Principal's request?

2. Q. I'm not sure who to direct my question to... Do senior citizens have to pay to get into sporting events? Right now the League allows kids under 6 and adults over 62 into games without a ticket. I'm not sure we can legally do this.

A. It is legal...State law requires that schools provide for those who could not afford to participate in optional extra-curricular events by reducing or waiving the fees.

“RCW 28A.325.010 Fees for optional noncredit extracurricular events–Disposition. The board of directors of any common school district may establish and collect a fee from students and nonstudents as a condition to their attendance at any optional noncredit extracurricular event of the district which is of a cultural, social, recreational, or athletic nature: PROVIDED, That in so establishing such fee or fees, the district shall adopt regulations for waiving and reducing such fees in the cases of those students whose families, by reason of their low income, would have difficulty in paying the entire amount of such fees and may likewise waive or reduce such fees for nonstudents of the age of sixty-five or over who, by reason of their low income, would have difficulty in paying the entire amount of such fees. An optional comprehensive fee may be established and collected for any combination or all of such events or, in the alternative, a fee may be established and collected as a condition to attendance at any single event. Fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the **associated student body** program fund of the school district, and may be expended to defray the costs of optional noncredit extracurricular events of such a cultural, social, recreational, or athletic nature, or to otherwise support the activities and programs of **associated student bodies.**”

3. Q. Our ASB voted (and it has been done) to take bottled water from our concessions and use it as a beverage for kids taking the WASL test. This doesn't sound okay to me. Can this be done?
Q2. What do we do now? It's already been done and drunk (I didn't know about this until today). Do we reimburse ASB?

A. You are correct...The auditors' opinion has been specific that the WASL is curricular and required, and that spending extra- curricular funds (ASB \$) for the test is NOT appropriate.

A2. It would be appropriate to note that you found out the procedure was incorrect, and reimburse the ASB. You could pay them back through the general fund, or through a donation from a parent group.

4. Q. One of our parent groups incorrectly deposited money from their fund raiser into our Senior Class ASB account. Is it possible to transfer that money back to them if we get a statement that the funds were incorrectly deposited? Our other option seems to be signing on as a sponsor of a parent event and spending that money directly.

A. If you can justify and document that an error was made, you can correct it. The question the auditor might ask is how did this happen? What controls are now in place to assure that public money and private money is not co-mingled? Did the public understand that this was a private fundraiser? Hopefully, you caught this right away and not months later. Depending on the time lapse, you might be better to leave it in ASB and spend it for the senior event.

5. Q. My FCCLA Advisor had a number of kids qualify for Nationals in Orlando Fl. She wants to know if she can have her kids solicit funds for the trip. I have talked to my HS office Manager and her and I think that students cannot. She thinks she can. So I am looking for help.

A. There is no statutory prohibition against students soliciting donations to the school for the extra-curricular activities program. There may be a problem if they were seeking donation privately in terms of taxes owed (although I see plenty of people doing that same thing at freeway exit ramps). You should check to make sure you don't have a local (school board) rule against solicitations as door to door campaigns could be dangerous. A cover letter or letter of introduction from the Principal would probably be helpful in this case.

6. Q. We held our ASB elections just this week. We had no one run for the office of secretary or treasure. All three of the students ran for president. Can we take the one with the most votes and they are president and decide between the other two who's going to be placed into the other positions?????? There's nothing in the constitution that speaks to this problem. The students are fine with however we do this.

A. This is totally up to you and the school district. There is not WAC or RCW that speaks to this. I think it is a great idea- as it engages all those who were interested, but there may be some political backlash if you sway from past practices. As long as you can justify it to your school board, I say go for it.

7. Q. The issue of fundraising and gambling has come up, again. If a group of students has a hoop shoot with a prize does that constitute gambling?

A. If any of the three elements that make up a gambling event are absent, then the activity is NOT gambling. So if everyone gets to participate in the shooting of baskets it is a game of skill,

not a raffle. If you charge for a ticket, and then a drawing is held to determine the shooter- it is a game of chance (a raffle) and the participants must be at least 18 years of age.

8. Q. I have a question I hope you can help me with. Can a booster club create, fundraise and provide a scholarship? My soccer coach would like to develop a scholarship for one or two seniors on the girls' soccer team. The selection process will take in to account, soccer involvement, academics, teacher evaluations, extracurricular activities, community service and an essay. [The money that will go toward the scholarship will be fundraised by the soccer boosters \(parents\).](#)

A. A non-profit is also probably registered as a charity in Washington State. In any case if the article of incorporation allow scholarships then the club can issue them. I'm checking with my tax advisor to see if they must issue an IRS 1099 at year's end....A CPA advised that if the money was used for books and tuition then the scholarship is not considered income, if the money is used for food and housing it is income and should be reported on a 1099 form.