April 3, 2006

N.J. Secretary of State  
Office of Secretary of State  
Laws & Commission  
Section PO Box 300  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0300  

Re: Downe Township School District - 1120  
Cumberland -11 Board Policy  
9272 - Pay to Play  

Dear Sirs:  

At the Downe Township Board of Education regular board meeting of 3/21/06, the board adopted Board Policy 9272, "Pay to Play". A copy of this policy is attached for your records.  

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.  

Sincerely,  

Stephanie Kuntz  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  

Enc.
PAY-TO-PLAY

The board of education wishes to maintain honest and ethical relations with vendors and to avoid any appearance of impropriety or favoritism in its contracting practices. Therefore the board of education prohibits “pay-to-play”

1. No member of the board will vote upon or otherwise participate in the awarding of any contract in an amount to any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association or other business entity which has contributed funds including campaign contributions to that member of the board of education within the previous year.

   a. Contributions to any member of the school board from any individual, firm, partnership, association, or other business entity doing business with the school district are prohibited during the term of a contract.

   b. Contributions that are prohibited include cash contributions, in-kind contributions, pledges to make contributions of any kind to a candidate for or holder of public office, or any other thing of value.

2. Not later than 10 days prior to entering into any contract having an anticipated value in excess of $17,500, except for a contract that is required by law to be publicly advertised for bids, any business entity bidding thereon or negotiating therefore, shall submit along with its bid or price quote, a list of political contributions made by the corporation, its principals and employees, or others on its behalf, along with the date and amount of each contribution and the name of the recipient of each contribution. If the required list of contributions is missing, incomplete or untimely, the contract is void ab initio, as a material defect that invalidates the contract.

3. In addition, the business entity may be subject to a fine imposed by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

4. Provisions of this ban on pay-to-play will not apply to a contract when a public emergency requires the immediate delivery of goods or services.

5. The school board directs the board secretary/business administrator to the N.J. Secretary of State, Office of Secretary of State, Laws & Com Box 300, Trenton, NJ, 08625-0300, to inform vendors of the requirement and to keep the school board informed about the implementation.
POLICY 9272

Date: 03/21/06

Legal Reference: P.L. 2005, c.271