

CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS

The primary educational aims of the schools and the needs and interests of their students must be the first consideration at all times.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF EDUCATIONALLY DESIRABLE CONTESTS

1. On a national basis, the schools should confine their participation to those national contests which are currently placed on the approved list published annually by the Committee on National Contests and Activities of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.
2. On a state and local basis, the contest or activity should be:
 - a. one that supplements and does not interfere with the regular school program;
 - b. one that is beneficial to youth in educational, civic, social or ethical development;
 - c. one that makes it possible for individual students to work out contributions by their own efforts and does not invite dishonest collaboration;
 - d. one whose subject is not commercial, controversial, sectarian or concerned with propaganda. It must emphasize high moral standards, good citizenship, and intellectual competence;
 - e. one from which no contestant should be excluded because of race, color, creed or payment of entry fee;
 - f. one which does not place an undue burden on pupils, teachers, or the school, nor require frequent or lengthy absence of participants from the school;
 - g. one sponsored by an organization engaged in a creditable or acceptable enterprise regardless of kind or amount of prizes offered and must not use the contest or activity as a "front" for advertising a company name or product.
3. The approval of the contest is permissive in nature and in no way obligates individual schools to participate. The school must decide whether the contest fits into the instructional program of that particular school.

Winners must be notified both personally and through school officials as soon as winners have been determined.

SOURCE: Mississippi School Board Association

DATE: December 20, 2016