

**Wylie ISD**  
**Funds 461 - 865**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What can be legally spent from Public Funds?**

*In order for an expenditure of Public Funds to be legal it must be at least one of the below:*

- (1) Necessary in the conduct of Public Schools.*
- (2) Included in the Board Approved Budget.*
- (3) Comply with all competitive bidding requirements.*

**2. Are 461 Funds considered Public Funds?**

*Yes, 461 Funds are considered Public Funds and must comply with the requirements listed in number (1) above.*

**3. Can a donation or gift be purchased from Public Funds?**

*No, Article 3 of the Texas Constitution prohibits the gift of Public Funds.*

**4. Are 865 Funds considered Public Funds?**

*No, these Funds belong to designated groups and are simply kept in trust by the District for the school related groups.*

**5. How can 865 monies be spent?**

*Since these monies are not Public Funds they can be spent in any manner desired by the specific group. Decisions are normally made by Club Officers and Club Sponsor. For 865 funds, see Activity Fund Manual on the Portal for limitations on giving gifts to teachers and staff.*

**6. Can a Principal determine how 865 monies are to be spent?**

*For 865, no, this money belongs to a specific group and the group determines how money is to be spent.*

**7. Can 461 Funds be used to purchase every student on a campus an award?**

*No, 461 Funds are Public Funds and if an award is given to every student it would be viewed as a gift instead of an award. A gift of Public Funds is not legal.*

**8. Can 461 Funds be used to purchase an award for a student with perfect attendance?**

*Yes, this would be considered an award since it is given to an individual student or a select group for some type of achievement.*

**9. Can 865 monies be used to purchase an award for every student on a campus?**

*Yes, if the specific Club wants to use their money for this purpose. The 865 group can spend their money in any manner they desire. The Principal cannot determine how these funds are spent.*

**10. Can 461 Funds be used to purchase pictures and other decorative items?**

*Decoration purchases are allowed, but limited. Decorations are allowable if used for: morale boosting functions, retirement events, and volunteer ceremonies. Other decorations purchases, specifically for personal use, would not be considered necessary for the conduct of school business and, therefore, are not allowed because they do not meet the requirements spelled out in the Texas Education Code for Expenditures of Public Funds.*

**11. Can 865 Funds be used to purchase pictures and other decorative items?**

*Yes, if the specific group wants to spend their money in this fashion. The Principal cannot determine how groups spend 865 money.*

**12. Can classes have pizza parties paid with fund 865 monies during school, during lunches?**

*Basically, 865 funds can be spent however the students involved decide as long as purchasing guidelines are followed. However, special care must also be taken to ensure compliance with the state nutrition guidelines.*

**13. Can 461 Funds be used to improve employee morale by providing a meal?**

*Yes, meals/snacks for staff development or morale building shall support the Campus Improvement Plan.*

**14. Can 865 Funds be used to improve employee morale by providing a meal?**

*Yes, if the specific group wants to spend their money in this fashion. The Principal cannot determine how groups spend 865 money.*

**15. Can 461 funds be used to purchase clothing/uniforms for employees either with or without school logo?**

*Yes as long as it is required school apparel for staff.*

**16. Can a shirt with the school logo be purchased and given to each teacher using 865 Funds?**

*Yes, if the specific group wants to use their money in this fashion. The Principal cannot determine how a group spends this money.*

**17. Can vending machines proceeds be deposited to an 865 Fund?**

*No, TEA requires the deposit of proceeds from Vending Machines into a 461 Fund except for those associated with the Food Service Department.*

**18. How does money get set up into an 865 Fund?**

*Generally money gets into these funds by fundraising activities of the specific group.*

**19. Can money be transferred from the 461 Fund to an 865 Fund?**

*No, this would be considered a gift of Public Funds which is not legal.*

**20. Can cash or gift certificates/cards be given to students or employees as an award?**

*Cash may not be given as an award. Wylie ISD policy prohibits the purchase of gift certificates/cards.*

**21. Can staff 865 Fund benevolence accounts be used as a flow through account in which money is collected from students for charitable organizations?**

*No. Staff 865 accounts which are used for "Sunshine" committees or other types of benevolence committees are strictly for faculty/staff use only. The staff is allowed to use 865 accounts so they do not have to set up their own bank account or burden an employee with keeping track of the money collected for these committees.*