

BCB – BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST

As elected officials, School Board members owe a duty of loyalty to the general public in protecting the school district's interests. Therefore, the Board declares that a conflict of interest is a personal, monetary interest that is immediate, definite, and demonstrable and which is or may be in conflict with the public interest.

A Board member who has a personal or private interest in a matter proposed or pending before the Board will disclose such interest to the Board, will not deliberate on the matter, will not vote on the matter, and will not attempt to influence other members of the Board regarding the matter. A Board member in such instances of conflict of interest shall also recuse himself/herself from the meeting while the matter of conflict of interest is being deliberated and acted upon.

Additionally, Board members should refrain from engaging in conduct or actions, that give the appearance of a conflict of interest, embarrass the Board, or personally embarrass another Board member.

It is not the intent of this policy to prevent the District from contracting with corporations or businesses with which a Board member is an employee. The policy is designed to prevent placing a Board member in a position where his/her interest in the public schools and his/her interest in his/her place of employment (or other indirect interest) might conflict, and to avoid appearances of conflict of interest even though such conflict may not exist.

NEPOTISM

The Board may employ a teacher or other employee if that teacher or other employee is the father, mother, brother, sister, wife, husband, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, sister-in-law, or brother-in-law of the Superintendent or any member of the Board. Such a relationship will not automatically disqualify a job applicant from employment with the school district.

However, the Board member shall declare his/her relationship with the job applicant and will refrain from debating, discussing, or voting on a nomination or other issue pertaining to this relationship. The job applicant is expected to declare his/her relationship with the Board member or Superintendent as well.

This provision shall not apply to any person within such relationship or relationships who has been regularly employed by the Board prior to the inception of the relationship, the adoption of this policy, or a Board member's election.

A Board member who has a matter proposed or pending before the Board in which a Board member's family member would benefit directly and/or the Board member indirectly will disclose such interest to the Board, will not deliberate on the matter, will not vote on the matter, and will not attempt to influence other members of the Board regarding the matter. A Board member in such instances of conflict of interest due to the nepotism policy shall also recuse himself/herself from the meeting while the matter of conflict of interest is being deliberated and acted upon.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Handbook (None)

APPROVED: July 17, 2008

PREVIOUS POLICY: None