

BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board of Directors and individual members will follow the letter and spirit of the law regarding ethics and conflicts of interest.

This policy is designed to prevent placing Board members in positions in which personal interest in the public schools and place of employment might conflict and to avoid appearances of conflict of interest, even though such conflict may not exist.

The law specifically forbids Board members from engaging in certain conduct. These prohibitions include, but are not limited to:

- A. A member from being employed for compensation by the Board of Directors;
- B. A member from having, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest in any contract with the Board of Directors;
- C. A member from voting on a contract with a person as a teacher or instructor, if he/she is related to that person as father, mother, spouse, brother, or sister;
- D. A member from authorizing, or employing the authority or influence of his/her office to secure authorization of, any public contract in which he/she, a member of his/her family or his/her business associates have an interest;
- E. A member from having an interest in the profits or benefits of a public contract entered into by, or for, the use of the School; and
- F. A member from occupying any position of profit during his/her term of office or within one year thereafter, in the prosecution of a public contract authorized by him/her or the Board of Directors of which he/she was a member at the time of authorization of that contract.

Community School law specifically forbids Board members from serving for specific reasons. These reasons include, but are not limited to:

- A. The person owes the state any money or is in a dispute over whether the person owes the state any money concerning the operation of a community school that has closed;
- B. The person would otherwise be subject to R.C. 3313.39(D) with respect to refusal, limitation, or revocation of a license to teach, if the person were a licensed educator;

- C. The person has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of theft in office, or has pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a substantially similar offense in another state;
- D. The person has not submitted to a criminal records check;
- E. The person serves on the governing boards of more than five (5) start-up community schools at the same time;
- F. The person or immediate relative of the person is an owner, employee, or consultant of any sponsor or operator of a community school, unless at least one year has elapsed since the conclusion of the person's membership; or
- G. The person is employed by the sponsor and the sponsor is a school district or educational service center.

Board Member Ethics

All Board members must adhere to the "Code of Ethics" adopted by the Ohio School Boards Association, and comply with Ohio's Ethics Laws as interpreted by the Ohio Ethics Commission.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §§102.01 et seq.; 2921.01; 2921.42; 3314.02; 3314.03

Adopted: May 3, 2018
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