

## 1.06 BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board and individual members will follow the letter and spirit of the law regarding ethics and conflicts of interest, including the provisions of O.R.C. Chapter 102 and O.R.C. §§3313.33 and 2921.42.

A Board member will not have any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a contract with the District; will not furnish directly any labor, equipment or supplies to the District; nor be employed by the Board in any capacity for compensation.

In the event a Board member is employed by a corporation or business which furnishes goods or services to the District, the Board member will declare the association with the organization and refrain from debating or voting upon the question of the contract. It is not the intent of this policy to necessarily prevent the District from contracting with corporations or businesses because a Board member is an employee of the firm. The policy is designed to prevent placing Board members in positions in which personal interest in the public school 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:

- A. The Prosecuting Attorney or a city attorney from serving on the Board of Education;
- B. A Board member from serving as the school dentist, physician, or nurse;
- C. A member from being employed for compensation by the Board;
- D. A member from having, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest in any contract with the Board;
- E. 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;
- F. 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;
- G. 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 district; and
- H. 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 Education of which he/she was a member at the time of authorization of that contract.

The Board of Education is a legal entity, and Board members have authority only when acting as a Board legally in session. An individual Board member has no legal authority or power to act for or to commit the Board, except when performing duties expressly and specifically authorized by the Board. The Board shall not be bound in any way by any statement or action on the part of any individual Board member or employee except when such statement or action is in pursuance of specific instructions from or authorization by the Board. Board members should not disclose confidential information.

Board members are without authority, except where specifically noted in the Ohio Revised Code or the policies of the Board, to direct any Board employee to perform any service or to take any action related directly or indirectly to the operation of the schools. The Board, in an official meeting and upon the recorded vote of a majority of the members present, may give direction to employees and/or require the performance of specific school related tasks.

The Board of Education shall concern itself primarily with broad questions of policy rather than with administrative details. The application of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the Superintendent and his/her staff, who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system. Board members should refer individuals having questions and/or complaints directly to the appropriate administrator.

### Responsibilities

Board members are responsible to the people of the School District by whom they were elected and to the State of Ohio. Members of the Board are responsible for upholding the laws and the Constitution of the United States of America and the State of Ohio, and for implementing the regulations of the State Board of Education.