

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Conflict of Interest**

The Board requires that its members adhere to all Connecticut conflict of interest laws applicable to Board members. Additionally, Board members should refrain from engaging in conduct or actions which, although not violative of Connecticut law, give the appearance of a conflict of interest, embarrass the Board, or personally embarrass the Board member.

The Board is particularly concerned that apparent or actual conflicts of interest may arise when hiring personnel, purchasing materials or services, or gathering information regarding Board employees. Therefore, Board members are required to adhere to the following provisions:

1. No member of this Board shall seek or accept employment for compensation by the Board of Education in any position in this school district. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statute §10-232, if a member of this Board does obtain such employment, the Board member must forfeit his or her Board membership.
2. If a parent, guardian, spouse, including a domestic partner of a civil union, child, or grandchild of a Board member is being considered for employment by this Board, such Board member shall refrain from participating in discussion, voting and attempting to influence other Board members with regard to the family member's employment.
3. No Board member shall use his or her position on the Board to influence a non-Board member in an employment or contractual decision; nor shall a Board member use his or her position on the Board to influence a Board member in employment or contractual decisions other than those routinely made by this Board.
4. No Board member shall have a direct pecuniary interest in a contract with the school district. This prohibition includes directly furnishing any labor, services, equipment, or supplies to the school district for compensation. This bylaw does not, however, prohibit the district from contracting with corporations or businesses which employ or are associated with a Board member, provided that the Board member declares to this Board his or her employment or association with such business or corporation and refrains from debating, voting, and otherwise attempting to influence Board members regarding the contract.
5. The Board shall not give preferential treatment to any business or corporation which employs a town official or paid town employee or in which any town official or paid town employee or in which any town official or paid town employee has a substantial financial interest.

## Bylaws of the Board

### Conflict of Interest (continued)

6. No Board member shall solicit information from the public regarding the performance, behavior, or competence of a Board employee. This provision does not, however, prevent a Board member from listening to the public's concerns regarding a particular Board employee.

The above-noted conflict of interest rules are not intended to be a complete list of prohibited conduct or activity by Board members. Board members should be continually aware of any situations which may create actual or apparent conflicts of interest.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-479 Conflicts of Interest.

10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.

10-232 Restrictions on employment of members of the board of education.

P.A. 05-10 An Act Concerning Civil Unions