

BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

As elected officials, School 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 or pecuniary interest that is immediate, definite, and demonstrable and which is or may be in conflict with 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. 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 interest in the public schools and his interest in his place of employment (or other indirect interest) might conflict, and to avoid conflicts of interest or appearances of conflict of interest even though such conflict may not exist.

Nepotism

The Board will not employ an individual if that individual 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. Such a relationship with the member of the Board will not automatically disqualify a job applicant from employment with the 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.

Additionally, a Board member must disclose any other personal or business relationship with a candidate for employment. The Board member may elect not to participate in the selection process. Also, the Board may determine to what extent that Board member may or may not contribute to the selection process.

Legal References

*Marsh v. Hanover, 113 NH 667 (1973) and
Atherton v. Concord, 109 NH 164 (1968)*

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