

## **STAFF ETHICS/ CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Teachers shall adhere to rules of good conduct appropriate to their responsibility toward children. They shall be expected to dress neatly and attractively during school hours, keeping in mind the strong influence their example has on students.

No district employee shall engage in or have a financial interest, directly or indirectly, in any activity that conflicts or raises a reasonable question of conflict with his or her duties and responsibilities in the school system. Employees are expected to perform the duties of the position to which they are assigned and to observe rules of conduct and ethical principles established by state law and district policies and regulations.

It shall be understood that all confidential information an employee is privy to as a result of district employment shall be kept strictly confidential. In addition, employees shall not utilize information solely available to them through school sources to engage in any type of work outside of the school district. This includes information concerning potential customers, clients, or employers.

An employee shall not sell any books, instructional supplies, musical instruments, equipment, or other school supplies to any student or to the parents/guardians of a student who attends the school served by the employee unless prior approval has been obtained from the Board.

### **Conflicts of interest - federally funded transactions**

Separate from state law and the Board's policies concerning district employees' standards of conduct and conflict of interest, federal law imposes restrictions on the conduct of district employees whenever the transaction in question is supported by federal funds subject to the Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG).

Under the UGG, a district employee shall not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a federal award if the employee has a conflict of interest as defined by the UGG.

A conflict of interest arises under the UGG when the employee, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her business partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the aforementioned parties has a substantial financial or other interest in or would obtain a substantial tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.

In addition, the UGG prohibits district employees from soliciting or accepting gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts that are federally funded, unless the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value.

For purposes of this policy section only, "immediate family" means the employee's spouse, partner in a civil union, children, and parents. In determining whether a financial or other interest is "substantial," or whether anything solicited or accepted for

private benefit is of “nominal value,” district employees shall follow the standards of conduct and corresponding definitions applicable to local government employees under state law.

These minimum federal requirements are not waivable in connection with any transaction or contract to which they apply.

An employee who violates the standards of conduct set forth in this policy’s section may be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

ADOPTED: May 1977

REVISED: May 1981

Nov 15, 2022

CROSS REFS.: GBK, Staff Concerns/Complaints/Grievances