

Policy Code: BCB

School Board Member Conflict of Interest

NH RSA 671:18 states that:

To become a candidate for any school district office, a person must be a registered voter in the district. No person holding the office of member of the school board shall at the same time hold the office of district moderator, treasurer, or auditor. No person employed on a salaried basis by a school administrative unit or by any school district within a school administrative unit shall be a school board member in any district of the school administrative unit.

Additionally, it is this School District's policy that a School Board member shall not have any direct personal or pecuniary interest in a contract with the School District, nor shall a member or spouse of a member furnish directly any paid labor, equipment, or supplies to the School District.

In the event a School Board member is employed by a company or has a secondary interest in a company which furnishes goods or services to the School District, the School Board member shall declare such interest and refrain from debating, discussing, or voting upon the question of contracting with the company.

It is not the intent of this policy to prevent the district from contracting with companies because a School Board member is an employee of the firm. The policy is designed to prevent placing a School Board member in a position where interest in the public schools and interest in place of employment (or other interest) might conflict, and to avoid appearances of conflict of interest even though such conflict may not exist.

Insofar as School Board members who are parents of students in the School District might vote for things that directly affect their children, those School Board members should consider recusing themselves from such votes in order to be as unbiased as possible.

Nepotism

The School District will not hire any teacher or other employee, contractor or consultant, if such 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 or any elected official in the school district or SAU or any other district in the same SAU.

In the case of a regularly employed district employee whose employment pre-dates the relationship giving rise to the conflict, the School Board member shall declare his/her interest and refrain from debating, discussing or voting on a nomination or issue.

The restrictions placed on school board members by this policy applies equally and fully to the district's Superintendent.

Approved November 3, 2018