

BLAIRSVILLE- SALTSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: LOCAL BOARD PROCEDURES

TITLE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST/
ANTI-INFLUENCE

ADOPTED: November 16, 2011

REVISED:

010. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/ANTI-INFLUENCE

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to strengthen the faith and confidence of Blairsville-Saltsburg School District residents in their governing body and to recognize that personal financial gain through public office is a violation of said trust and, therefore, to hold public officials accountable for their acts which violate said trust.

Section 2. Guidelines

No Board member or administrator shall use his/her position, or any information received by virtue of serving as a Board member or administrator, for the private pecuniary benefit of him/herself or his/her immediate family (parent, spouse, child, brother or sister).

No Board member or administrator shall use his/her position, or any information received by virtue of serving as a Board member or administrator, for the private pecuniary benefit of a business with which the Board member or administrator or his/her immediate family is associated. This prohibition shall apply to any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, organization, holding company, joint stock company, receivership, trust or any entity organized for profit, in which the Board member or administrator or a member of his/her immediate family is a director, owner, officer or employee, or in which the Board member or administrator or his/her immediate family owns more than five percent (5%) of the equity or assets.

Nothing set forth herein shall prohibit a Board member or administrator from acting on a matter which affects, to the same degree, the class consisting of an industry, occupation, or other group which includes the Board member or administrator, a member of his/her immediate family or a business with which s/he or a member of his/her immediate family is associated, regardless of the extent of any financial interest therein.

010. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/ANTI-INFLUENCE - Pg. 2

SC 324	<p>No Board member or administrator shall solicit or accept anything of monetary value, including a gift, loan, political contribution, reward or promise of future employment, with the understanding that his/her vote or judgment on a school district matter would be influenced thereby.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, no Board member or administrator shall solicit or accept from any provider of goods or services to the district, any gift or gifts which exceed the total sum of \$250 on an annual basis; provided, however, that this limitation shall not apply while the Board member or administrator is attending a regional or national convention, conference or reception where the event or meal is jointly extended to Board members and administrators from other school districts.</p> <p>No Board member or administrator shall accept any payment in recognition of published works, appearances, speeches, and/or presentations in his/her capacity as a Board member or administrator, which is not intended as consideration for the value of nonpublic occupational or professional services.</p> <p>No Board member shall, during the term for which s/he is elected or appointed as a member of the Board, as a private person engaged in any business transaction with the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District, be employed in any capacity by the school district, or receive from the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District any pay for services rendered to the district except as otherwise provided by law.</p> <p>Neither the spouse nor the child of a Board member or administrator, nor a business with which either of them or the Board member or administrator is associated, shall enter into a contract with the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District or a subcontract relating to the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District valued at \$500.00 or more, unless the contract has been awarded through an open and public process which included prior public notice and subsequent public disclosure of all proposals considered and contracts awarded, and unless the Board member or administrator does not have any supervisory or overall responsibility for implementation or administration of the contract or subcontract. In implementing the foregoing, it is recognized that no specification for any item to be purchased by the school district shall be drawn or accepted which would limit the purchase of the items to a firm, corporation, partnership or other business entity in which a Board member or administrator is an officer, agent or employee and which excludes all other persons who could submit quotations or bid on an equivalent item.</p> <p>In the event that the agenda of any meeting of the Board, or a committee thereof, includes any item which, if voted upon by a Board member, would constitute a conflict of interest and result in his/her violation of any of the guidelines set forth herein, that Board member shall abstain from voting. Specifically, prior to the vote being taken, the Board member shall publicly announce and disclose the nature of</p>
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his/her interest, as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the Board Secretary. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the School Board would be unable to take any action on the matter before it because the number of Board members required to abstain from voting under this policy makes it impossible to obtain the number of votes legally required to approve an item, those Board members otherwise required to abstain shall be permitted to vote provided the appropriate disclosures are made.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 324

Board Policy – 011