

Conflict of Interest

The Board desires its members not only to adhere to all laws regarding conflict of interest, but to be continually aware of situations which have the appearance of conflict of interest and to avoid actions that might embarrass themselves or the Board.

Two areas of Board operations must be guarded with particular care in order that there be no real or seeming conflict of interest. These are purchasing and hiring of new personnel. Therefore:

1. Board members are strictly prohibited from being financially interested, or having any personal beneficial interest, either directly or indirectly, in any contract or purchase order for any supplies, materials, equipment or contractual services furnished to or used by the Board of Education. It is not the intent of this bylaw to prevent the district from contracting with corporations or businesses because a Board member is an employee of the firm. However, in such instances the member may be expected to declare his/her association with the firm and will refrain from debating or voting on the question.
2. If a member of the immediate family of a Board member--specifically parent/guardian, spouse, child or grandchild or any person who resides with the Board member -- is being considered for employment, that member shall disqualify him/herself from participation in discussion or vote.
3. The Board shall not give preferential treatment to companies in which town officials or paid town employees, have a major financial interest or to companies by which they are employed.
4. No Board member shall use his or her position to influence an employment or contractual decision other than those routinely made by the Board itself.
5. No member of the Board may be employed for compensation in any position in the school system. If a Board member is employed by the school district, the office to which he/she was elected or appointed shall become vacant.
6. Board members are strictly prohibited from accepting or receiving, directly or indirectly, from any person, firm or corporation to which any contract or purchase order may be awarded by the Board of Education, by rebate, gifts or otherwise, any money, or anything of value whatsoever, or any promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
7479 Conflicts of Interest.
10156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.
10232 Restrictions on employment of members of the board of education.

Bylaw approved:
Bylaw revised:
Bylaw reviewed:
Bylaw reviewed:

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NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut