

SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER CONDUCT

Public office is a trust created by the confidence, which the public places in the integrity of its public officers. To preserve this confidence, it is the desire of the Board of Education to operate under the highest ethical standards.

In carrying out his/her fiduciary duties, a Board of Education member shall not:

1. Disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of his/her official duties to further substantially his/her personal and/or financial interests.
2. Accept a gift of substantial value or substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift of substantial value which would tend to improperly influence a reasonable person in his/her position or which he/she knows or should know is primarily for the purpose of rewarding him/her for official action taken.
3. Engage in a substantial financial transaction for his/her private business purposes with a person whom he/she supervises in the course of his/her official duties.

The phrase "economic benefit tantamount to a gift of substantial value" includes a loan at a rate of interest substantially lower than the prevailing commercial rate and compensation received for private services rendered at a rate substantially exceeding the fair market value.

It is permissible for a Board of Education member to receive:

1. Campaign contributions and contributions in kind which are reported in accordance with state law.
2. An occasional non-pecuniary gift, which is insignificant in value.
3. A non-pecuniary award publicly presented by a nonprofit organization in recognition of public service.
4. Payment or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenditures for travel and subsistence for attendance at a convention or other meeting at which he/she is scheduled to participate.
5. Reimbursement for or acceptance of an opportunity to participate in a social function meeting, which is not extraordinary when, viewed in light of his/her position.
6. Items of perishable or nonpermanent value including but not limited to meals, lodging, travel expenses or tickets to sporting, recreational, educational or cultural events. Tickets to these events may have to be reported in accordance with the public official disclosure law.
7. Payment for speeches, appearances or publications reported in accordance with the public official disclosure law.

Adopted November 1992

Revised October 2003

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 1-45-108 (Campaign Reform Act; requires report of campaign contributions and expenditures)
C.R.S. 24-6-203 (Public Official Disclosure Act)
C.R.S. 24-18-104
C.R.S. 24-18-109