

Board Bylaws

Conflict of Interest

Incompatible Activities

Governing Board members shall not engage in any employment or activity which is inconsistent with, incompatible with, in conflict with or inimical to the Board member's duties as an officer of the district. (Government Code 1126)

Conflict of Interest Code

The district's conflict of interest code shall be comprised of the terms of 2 CCR 18730 and any amendments to it adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission, together with a district attachment specifying designated positions and the specific types of disclosure statements required for each position.

When a change in the district's conflict of interest code is necessitated by changed circumstances, such as the creation of new designated positions, amendments or revisions, the changed code shall be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days. (Government Code 87306)

If a Board member or designated employee determines that he/she has a financial interest in a decision, as described in Government Code 87103, this determination shall be disclosed. The member shall be disqualified from voting unless his/her participation is legally required. (2 CCR 18700)

Statements of economic interests submitted to the district by designated employees in accordance with the conflict of interest code shall be available for public inspection and reproduction. (Government Code 81008)

Financial Interest

Board members and designated employees shall not be financially interested in any contract made by the Board or in any contract they make in their capacity as Board members or designated employees. (Government Code 1090)

A Board member shall not be considered to be financially interested in a contract if his/her interest includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: (Government Code 1091.5)

1. That of an officer who is being reimbursed for his/her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of an official duty

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2. That of a recipient of public services generally provided by the public body or board of which he/she is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the board
3. That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if such contracting party is the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of such contract is the property in which such officer or employee has such interest as landlord or tenant in which even his/her interest shall be deemed a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Government Code 1091
4. That of a spouse of an officer or employee of the district if his/her spouse's employment or office-holding has existed for at least one year prior to his/her election or appointment
5. That of a non-salaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records
6. That of a non-compensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the nonprofit board or to which the school Board has a legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records
7. That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a governmental entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that such interest is disclosed to the Board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that such interest is noted in its official records
8. That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee or agent of a firm which renders, or has rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm or real estate firm

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In addition, a Board member or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his/her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor. (Government Code 1091.5)

A Board member shall not be deemed to be financially interested in a contract if he/she has only a remote interest in the contract and if the remote interest is disclosed during a Board meeting and noted in the official Board minutes. The affected Board member shall not vote or debate on the matter or attempt to influence any other Board member to enter into the contract. Remote interests are specified in Government Code 1091(b); they include, but are not limited to, the interest of a parent in the earnings of his/her minor child. (Government Code 1091)

A Board member may enter into a contract if the rule of necessity or legally required participation applies as defined in Government Code 87101.

Even if there is no prohibited or remote interest, a Board member shall abstain from voting on personnel matters that uniquely affect a relative of the Board member. A Board member may vote, however, on collective bargaining agreements and personnel matters that affect a class of employees to which the relative belongs. "Relative" means an adult who is related to the person by blood or affinity within the third degree, as determined by the common law, or an individual in an adoptive relationship within the third degree. (Education Code 35107)

A relationship within the third degree includes the individual's parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and the similar family of the individual's spouse unless the individual is widowed or divorced.

Gifts

Board members and designated employees may accept gifts only under the conditions and limitations specified in Government Code 89503 and 2 CCR 18730.

The limitations on gifts do not apply to wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays and other similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value. (Government Code 89503)

Gifts of travel and related lodging and subsistence shall be subject to the prevailing gift limitation except as described in Government Code 89506.

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A gift of travel; does not include travel provided by the district for Board members and designated employees. (Government Code 89506)

Honoraria

Board members and designated employees shall not accept any honorarium, which is defined as any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private gathering in their capacities as representatives of the district and in accordance with the law. (Government Code 89501, 89502)

The term honorarium does not include: (Government Code 89501)

1. Earned income for personal services customarily provided in connection with a bona fide business, trade or profession unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade or profession is making speeches
2. Any honorarium which is not used and, with 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the district for donation into the general fund without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes

APPENDIX DESIGNATED POSITIONS/DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

It has been determined that persons occupying the following positions manage public investments and shall file a full statement of economic interests pursuant to Government Code 87200:

Governing Board Members
Superintendent of Schools

1. Person occupying the following position is designated employee in Category 1:

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services

Designated person in this category must report:

- a. Interests in real property located entirely or partly within district boundaries, or within two miles of district boundaries or of any land owned or used by the district. Such interests include any leasehold, beneficial or ownership interest or option to acquire such interest in real property.

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- b. Investments or business positions in or income, including gifts, loans, and travel payments from sources which:
 - (1) Are engaged in the acquisition or disposal of real property within the District
 - (2) Are contractors or subcontractors which are or have been within the past two years engaged in work or services of the type used by the District
 - (3) Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the District
- 2. Persons occupying the following positions are designated employees in Category 2:

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Principal
Director of Maintenance, Operations and Facilities
Director of Nutrition Services
Director of Technology
Fiscal Services Coordinator
Director of Special Education

Designated persons in this category must report investments or business positions or income, including gifts, loans, and travel payments from sources which:

- a. Are contractors or subcontractors engaged in work or services of the type used by the designated employee's department or
- b. Manufacture or sell supplies, books, machinery or equipment of the type used by the designated employee's department.

For purposes of this Conflict-of-Interest code, the Principal's school is the Principal's department.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
1006 Qualifications for holding office
35107 School district employees
35230-35240 Corrupt practices

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35233 Prohibitions applicable to members of governing boards
35239 Compensation for board members in districts under 70 ADA

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090-1098 Prohibitions applicable to specified officers
1125-1129 Incompatible activities
81000-91015 Political Reform Act of 1974, especially:
82011 Code reviewing body
82019 Definition of designated employee
82028 Definition of gifts
82030 Definition of income
87100-87103.6 General prohibitions
87200-87210 Disclosure
87300-87313 Conflict of interest code
87500 Statements of economic interests
89501-89503 Honoraria and gifts
91000-91014 Enforcement

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2

18110-18997 Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission, especially:
18702.5 Public identification of a conflict of interest for Section 87200 filers

Bylaw Adopted: March 23, 1987

Bylaw Revised: March 27, 2006; January 8, 2007; October 6, 2008; October 17, 2011