

School Board 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 to operate under the highest ethical standards.

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

1. Disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of his/her official duties to further substantially his/her personal 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 (s)he 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 (s)he supervises in the course of his/her official duties.
4. Perform an official act which directly and substantially confers an economic benefit on a business or other undertaking in which (s)he has a substantial financial interest, or in which (s)he is engaged as a counsel, consultant, representative, or agent.

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 member to receive:

1. An occasional nonpecuniary gift which is insignificant in value.
2. A nonpecuniary award publicly presented by a nonprofit organization in recognition of public service.
3. Payment or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenditures for travel and subsistence for attendance at a convention or other meeting at which (s)he is scheduled to participate.
4. Reimbursement for or acceptance of an opportunity to participate in a social function or meeting which is not extra-ordinary when viewed in light of his/her position.
5. Items of perishable or nonpermanent value including but not limited to meals, lodging, travel expenses, or tickets to sporting, recreational, educational, or cultural events.
6. Payment for speeches, debates, or other public events reported as honorariums.

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 24-18-104
C.R.S. 24-18-109

CROSS REF.: BCB, Board Member Conflict of Interest
DJG, Vendor Relations