

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Committee member shall not have any direct or indirect pecuniary interest (as defined by law) in a contract with the school unit, nor shall he/she furnish directly any labor, equipment, or supplies to the unit.

In the event that a Committee member is employed by a corporation or business, or has a secondary interest in a corporation or business which furnishes goods or services to the schools, the Committee member shall declare his/her secondary interest and refrain from debating or voting upon the question of contracting with the company.

It is not the intent of this policy to prevent the school unit from contracting with corporations or businesses because a Committee member is an employee of the firm. The policy is designed to prevent the placing of Committee members in a position where their interest in public schools and their interest in their places of employment (or other indirect interest) might conflict, and to avoid appearances of conflict of interest even though such conflict may not exist.

A Committee member may not, during the time the member serves on the Committee and for one year after the member ceases to serve on the Committee, be appointed to any civil office of profit or employment position which has been created or the compensation of which has been increased by the action of the Committee during the time the member serves on the Committee.

A member of the Committee or spouse of a member may not be an employee in a public school within the jurisdiction of the Committee to which the member is elected.

A member of the Committee, or spouse of a member, may not serve as a volunteer when that volunteer, has primary responsibility for a curricular, co-curricular or extracurricular program or activity and reports directly to the superintendent, principal, athletic director or other school administrator in a public school within the jurisdiction of the Committee to which the member is elected. Volunteer activities of a member of the Committee or member's spouse, other than in roles that are prohibited by this section, may be prescribed by policies developed and approved by the School Committee.

For the purposes of this policy, the following statutory definitions apply:

- A. "Employee" means a person who receives monetary payment or benefits, no matter the amount paid or hours worked, for personal services performed for a school administrative unit.
- B. "Volunteer" means a person who performs personal services for a school administrative unit without monetary payments or benefits of any kind or amount.

Legal Reference: 17 MRSA § 3104
 20-A MRSA §§ 1002 et seq.; 1051
 30-A MRSA §§ 2251; 2604 et seq.

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