

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Coherent Governance Policies

GC-8

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Policy Type: Governance Culture

Board Member Conflict of Interest

Board members are expected to avoid conflicts of interest involving all matters considered by the board. A conflict of interest exists when a member is confronted with an issue in which the member has a personal or financial interest or an issue or circumstance that could render the member unable to devote complete loyalty and singleness of purpose to the public interest.

1. If a board member has a personal or financial interest in any matter being considered by the board, the member shall disclose such interest to the board, shall not vote on the matter and shall not attempt to influence the decisions of other board members.

If the board lacks a quorum without the member's participation, the member may vote if his participation is necessary to enable the board to act. If a member votes under such circumstances, the member shall state for the record the fact and nature of the potential conflict of interest.

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2. A member of the board shall not also be an employee of the district, nor shall a member receive any compensation for services rendered to the district. This provision shall not prohibit members from receiving reimbursement for authorized expenses incurred during the performance of board duties.
3. The board shall not enter into any contract that would be prohibited by California Government Code Section 1090 et seq., the Political Reform Act of 1974 or the Common Law as they may be amended from time to time by the State Legislature or decisional law with any of its members or with a firm in which a member has a financial interest.
4. A board member is expected to avoid conflict of interest in the exercise of the member's fiduciary responsibility. Accordingly, a board member may not:
 - a. disclose or use confidential information acquired during the performance of official duties as a means to further the board member's own personal financial interests or the interests of a member of the board member's immediate family;

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- b. accept a gift of substantial value or economic benefit which would tend to improperly influence a reasonable person, or which the board member knows or should know is primarily for the purpose of a reward for official action;

- c. engage in a substantial financial transaction for private business purposes with a person whom the board member directly or indirectly supervises;

- d. perform an official act which directly confers an economic benefit on a business in which the board member has a substantial financial interest or is engaged as a counsel, consultant, representative or agent.

Adopted: August 29, 2007

Monitoring Method: Board self-assessment
Monitoring Frequency: Annually in _____

Oakland Unified School District Board of Education