

OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

BOARD MEMBER CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1012

References: KRS 160.170, 160.180

Board members shall avoid conflicts of interest involving any matter pending before 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. Board members owe the public a duty to act in the best interests of the district.

Decision-making – A Board member may not participate in deliberating or voting on any decision when it is reasonably possible that the Board member or a family member may benefit personally or financially from the decision. In such a case, the Board member shall abstain from voting on the basis of the conflict of interest.

Appearance of impropriety – When a situation may create the appearance of impropriety, even where state and federal laws do not require any action, the Board member shall disclose the interest, abstain from voting, and avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Board members will not be interested in any contract with, or claim against, the Oldham County Schools, either directly or indirectly. No purchases of supplies, equipment or services nor any contract or agreement of any kind whatsoever will be made from companies in which the members of the Board hold a financial interest as defined by KRS 160.170 and 160.180.

Board members may not request supplies, equipment or services to be procured for their personal use through the school district bidding or purchasing procedures.

Board members shall not attempt to influence the hiring of any school employee, except the Superintendent of Schools or School Board Attorney.

Confidential information – Board members shall not disclose or use confidential information acquired during the performance of official duties as a means to further their own personal or financial interests or the interests of a family member.

A Board member has a duty to immediately notify the full board of any matter that has the potential of bringing negative attention to the district, causing an investigation of the board, the district, or district employees by law enforcement or educational oversight agencies, or resulting in a significant media response. When in doubt regarding the duty to inform other board members, a board member should err on the side of disclosure.