

DATE: October 7, 2011
TO: Board Members
FROM: David Meadows
RE: Review of TPSD Policies GCRD Tutoring for Pay and GBEA Staff Conflict of Interest

House Bill 641 as passed by the Mississippi legislature and signed by the governor in 2011 provided for Section 37-3-2, Mississippi Code of 1972 to be amended to provide specific grounds for the revocation or suspension of a teacher or administrator for sexual misconduct. As a result of HB 641, the Mississippi Department of Education was directed by the Mississippi State Board of Education to develop, distribute, and implement a Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics – Standards of Conduct. Teacher and administrator contracts for the 2011-2012 school year were revised so that each licensed employee acknowledged by his/her signature that he/she would abide by the Mississippi Code of Ethics – Standards of Conduct. A copy of this document is attached for information.

There are 10 primary standards included in the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics – Standards of Conduct. TPSD Policies GCRD Tutoring for Pay and GBEA Staff Conflict of Interest have been provide for review and discussion in light of the Code of Conduct. While these 2 policies touch several standards, Standard 8 – Remunerative Conduct in particular relates to Policies GCRD and GBEA. These policies are also attached for information and discussion.

While I am not recommending that the Board of Trustees take any action today on revising, updating, or reaffirming existing policies GCRD and GBEA, I did want to bring these polices for review and discussion in order to clarify and highlight these policies as they relate to Standard 8 of the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics – Standards of Conduct.