

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Conflict of Interest**

The Board desires its members not only to adhere to all laws regarding conflict of interest, but to be continually aware of situations which have the appearance of conflict of interest and to avoid actions that might embarrass themselves or the Board.

Two areas of Board operations must be guarded with particular care in order that there be no real or seeming conflict of interest. These are purchasing and hiring of new personnel. Therefore:

1. No member of the Board shall have any direct pecuniary interest in a contract with the school district, nor shall he/she furnish directly any labor, equipment, or supplies the district. It is not the intent of this bylaw to prevent the district from contracting with corporations or businesses because a Board member is an employee of the firm. However, in such instances the member may be expected to declare his/her association with the firm and will refrain from debating or voting on the question.
2. The Board will not employ on a permanent basis in any position in the New Fairfield School System a member of the immediate family of a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools. The immediate family shall be defined as mother, father, husband, wife, son, daughter, sister, brother or any member of the same household.
3. The Board shall not give preferential treatment to companies in which town officials or paid town employees have a major financial interest or to companies by which they are employed.
4. No Board member shall use his or her position to influence an employment or contractual decision other than those routinely made by the Board itself.
5. This policy shall not apply to the election or appointment of a Board member, nor shall it apply to prevent the continued employment of any person who has been regularly employed by the Board prior to the inception of a relationship enumerated above, prior to a Board member's election or appointment or prior to the adoption of this policy.
6. No member of the Board of Education may be employed for compensation by the school district. If a Board member is employed by the school district the office to which he or she was elected or appointed shall become vacant.

The intent of this policy is to prevent placing a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools in a position of conflict of interest and to avoid appearances of a conflict of interest even though such a conflict may not exist.

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Conflict of Interest** (continued)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-479 Conflict of interest (municipal employees)

10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.

10-232 Restrictions on employment of members of the board of education.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: June 23, 1999  
Bylaw readopted: May 3, 2007

NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New Fairfield, Connecticut