Policy

BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

*Code* **BCA** *Issued* **1/19**

The board desires to operate in the most ethical manner possible, and in furtherance of that goal, adopts this code of ethics to serve as a guide to its members as they strive to render effective and efficient service.

In carrying out his/her duties, a board member **will not** do the following:

* perform an official act which directly and substantially confers an economic benefit on a business or other undertaking in which he/she has a substantial financial interest or in which he/she is engaged as a counsel, consultant, representative, or agent
* accept a gift of substantial value, or substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift of substantial value, as a payment or reward for official action taken or advice and assistance given
* disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of official duties for personal financial gain, which includes, but is not limited to, economic gain for family members, associates, or business interests
* employ or promote a family member to a position which the board member supervises or manages (i.e., superintendent)
* participate in an action relating to the discipline of a family member
* accept anything of value for speaking before a public or private group as a board member
* neglect to annually submit a statement of economic interest to the State Ethics Commission

It will not be considered a breach of ethics for a board member to receive the following:

* an occasional non-pecuniary gift which is insignificant in value
* a non-pecuniary award publicly presented in recognition of public service
* payment or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenditures for travel and subsistence for attendance at a speaking engagement, convention, or other meeting at which he/she is scheduled to participate
* a benefit as an indirect consequence of transacting school district business

Each board member will be knowledgeable of and comply with these and all other applicable provisions of the S.C. Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act.

Adopted 1/29/19

Legal References:

1. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
2. Section 8-13-100, *et seq*. - Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act.
3. Section 59-19-300 - Prohibits receiving pay as teacher in same district where serving on board.
4. Section 59-25-10 - Prohibits board from employing members of immediate family as a teacher, with exceptions.