
PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of Interest

All employees of the Westbrook School Department shall perform their duties in a manner free from conflict of interest to assure the proper performance of school business as well as to earn and keep public confidence. No employee of the Westbrook School Department with a real or an apparent conflict of interest in a proposed transaction shall participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract pursuant to the transaction.

Conflict of interest is defined as when an interested party has a financial interest in the firm selected for the award. Interested party is defined as:

1. the employee;
2. a member of the employee's immediate family;
3. his / her partner;
4. an organization that employs or is about to employ a person described above.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

All employees with real or apparent conflicts of interest as defined above must disclose the conflict of interest to the Superintendent of Schools who will investigate the circumstances of the transaction. The Superintendent of Schools will exercise due diligence in investigating the circumstances of the transaction and if necessary, will make reasonable efforts to find alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement that would not give rise to a conflict of interest. If the Superintendent of Schools determines that the proposed transaction is in the best interest of the Westbrook School Department and is fair and reasonable, it may proceed with the transaction. In the event that the Superintendent of Schools may have a conflict of interest, an adjunct committee of the School Committee will investigate and make a determination regarding the transaction.

Violations

Employees of the Westbrook School Department who violate this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment, and if appropriate, referral to law enforcement.

Legal Reference: EDGAR Part 74, Title 34 - Administration of Grants and Agreements
EDGAR Part 80, Subpart C, Section 80.20, 80.36
MDOE Administrative letter 6 (9/18/2006) NCLB Fiscal Compliance

Cross Reference: BCB - School Committee Member Conflict of Interest
DJ - Bidding / Purchasing Requirements
KCD - Public Gifts to Schools

Adopted: October 10, 2007