

POLICY

Board of Education

Bernards Township

File Code: 1540
ADMINISTRATORS CODE OF ETHICS

DEFINITIONS:

“**Administrator**” means any employee of this school district who holds a position that:

1. Requires certification with the endorsement of school administrator, Principal, or School Business Administrator
2. Does not require certification but is responsible for making recommendations regarding hiring or the purchase or acquisition of any property or services by the Local school district; or
3. Requires certification with the endorsement of supervisor and is responsible for making recommendations regarding hiring or the purchase or acquisition of any property or services by the local school district.

“**Business**” means any corporation, partnership, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, trust, sole proprietorship, union, political organization, or other legal entity but does not include a school district or other public entity.

“**Interest**” means the ownership of or control of more than ten percent of the profits, assets, or stock of a business but does not include the control of assets in a labor union.

“**Relative**” means the spouse, natural or adopted child, parent, or sibling of a school official.

“**Immediate family**” means the person to whom the administrator is legally married and any dependent child of the administrator residing in the same household.

CODE OF ETHICS:

No administrator or member of his/her immediate family or relative shall have an interest in a business organization or engage in any business, transaction, or professional activity that is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his/her duties in the public interest.

No administrator shall use or attempt to use his/her official position to secure unwarranted privileges, advantages, or employment for him/herself, a member of his/her immediately family or relative, or any other person.

No administrator shall act in his/her official capacity in any matter where he/she, a member of his/her immediate family or relative, or a business organization in which he/she has an interest, has a direct or

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indirect financial or personal involvement that might reasonable be expected to impair his/her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties. No administrator shall act in his/her official capacity in any matter where he/she or a member of his/her immediate family or relative has a personal involvement that is or creates some benefit to the administrator or a member of his/her immediate family or relative.

No administrator shall undertake any employment or service, whether compensated or not, which might reasonably be expected to prejudice his/her independence of judgment in the exercise of official duties.

No administrator or member of his/her immediate family or business organization in which he/she has an interest shall solicit or accept any gift, favor, loan, political contribution, service, promise of future employment, or other thing of value based upon an understanding that the gift, favor, loan, political contribution, service, promise of future employment, or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him/her, directly or indirectly, in the discharge of is/her official duties.

No administrator shall accept offers of meals, entertainment, or hospitality which are limited to the clients/customers of the individual providing such hospitality. Administrators may attend hospitality suites or receptions at conferences only when they are open to all attending the conference.

No administrator shall use, or allow to be used, his/her public office or any information not generally available to the members of the public which he/she receives or acquires in the course of and by reason of his/her office, for the purpose of securing financial gain for him/herself, any member of his/her immediate family or relative, or any business organization with which he/she is associated.

No administrator or business organization in which he/she has an interest shall represent any person or party other than the Board of Education or this school district in connection with any cause, proceeding, application or other matter pending before this school district or in any proceeding involving this school district, except that this provision shall not be deemed to prohibit representation within the context of official labor union or similar representational responsibilities.

Nothing shall prohibit an administrator or members of his/her immediate family or relative from representing him/herself or themselves in negotiations or proceedings concerning his/her or their own interests.

Each administrator shall annually, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-25 and 18A:12-26, file a disclosure statement regarding potential conflicts of interest.

N.J.S.A. 18A:-12-21 through 18A:12-34
School Ethics Policy Guideline 1

ADOPTED: September 25, 2000