

Policy 210

Conflict of Interest



HEARTLAND LAKES COMMUNITY SCHOOL EXISTS TO EMPOWER SCHOLARS TO:
 BRAVELY LIVE THEIR TRUTH,
 TO BECOME WISE STEWARDS OF THE LAND AND RESOURCES
 AND TO IGNITE LASTING CURIOSITY THAT LEADS TO POSITIVE CHANGE IN THEIR SCHOOL, THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THEMSELVES.

Adoption:	January 22, 2024
Revision History	
Last Board Review: January 22, 2024	
Next Board Review: January 2027	
Review Frequency: Every 3 Years (per Policy 208)	

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to observe state statutes regarding conflicts of interest for Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS) Board members and to engage in charter school business activities in a fashion designed to avoid any conflict of interest or the appearance of impropriety.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The policy of the School Board is to conform with statutory conflict of interest laws and act in a manner that will avoid any conflict of interest or the appearance thereof.

III. CONFLICTING BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS

- A.** An individual is prohibited from serving as a member of the School Board if the individual, an immediate family member, or the individual's partner is a full or part owner or principal with a for-profit or nonprofit entity or independent contractor with whom HLCS contracts, directly or indirectly, for professional services, goods, or facilities. An individual is prohibited from serving as a School Board member if an immediate family member is an employee of the school. A violation of this prohibition renders a contract voidable at the option of the Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) or School Board. A member of a School Board who violates this prohibition is individually liable to HLCS for any damage caused by the violation. An individual may serve as a member of the School Board if no conflict of interest under this paragraph exists.
- B.** No member of the School Board, employee, officer, or agent of HLCS shall participate in selecting, awarding, or administering a contract if a conflict of interest exists. A conflict

exists when: (1) the School Board member, employee, officer, or agent; (2) the immediate family of the School Board member, employee, officer, or agent; (3) the partner of the School Board member, employee, officer, or agent; or (4) an organization that employs, or is about to employ, any individual in clauses (1) to (3), has a financial or other interest in the entity with which HLCS is contracting. A violation of this provision renders the contract void.

- C.** Any employee, agent, or School Board member of the authorizer of HLCS who participates in the initial review, approval, ongoing oversight, evaluation, or the charter renewal or nonrenewal process or decision is ineligible to serve on the School Board by that authorizer.
- D.** The School Board member conflict of interest provisions do not apply to compensation paid to a teacher employed as a teacher by HLCS or a teacher who provides instructional services to the charter school through a cooperative formed under Minn. Stat. Ch. 308A when the teacher also serves on the School Board
- E.** A School Board member, employee, or officer is a local official with regard to the receipt of gifts. A School Board member, employee, or officer must not receive compensation from a group health insurance provider.

Note: The applicability and enforceability of this policy 210 is limited to, and qualified by, Minnesota or Federal law that, at the time any such circumstance within the scope of the policy arise, may be contrary to some aspect or all of the policy.