

To: Board of Education

From: David Cunningham, director, human resources & legal services

Re: Board Policy Committee Recommendations

Date: October 8, 2018

Background:

The Board Policy Committee, in conjunction with its ongoing work on the fundraising policy and accompanying guidance, has reviewed district policies regarding gifts and donations. The committee is working to align these policies with each other and with current practice within the district. The proposed amendment to GAJ Gifts for Personnel clarifies the policy's intent to prevent undue influence by vendors by prohibiting staff from receiving a direct benefit, gift, reward, or promise of a direct benefit, gift, or reward for recommending, influencing, or attempting to influence the awarding of a contract that the staff person is involved in making or administering on behalf of the district.

The revised policy GAJ also clarifies what is considered a gift of "substantial value" that is prohibited under the policy. For example, staff will occasionally attend a lunch meeting or receive a gift card from a vendor. Staff are invited to attend activities without being required to purchase the ticket. The proposed language allows such a gift or activity without violating the policy if the gift is not of "substantial value." The revised language defines "substantial value" to be an amount not to exceed \$100 per year.

Recommendation:

The Board Policy Committee received no suggested changes to the amendments being considered for Board Policy GAJ; therefore, the committee recommends final adoption of the amendments.

Motion:

"I move that the Board of Education adopt the amendments to Board Policy GAJ."