

Local school board members are subject myriad of local, state and federal laws. These laws provide board members with the ethic standards in performance of their official responsibilities and duties. In some states the statutes are of a general nature that apply to all “public officials” or “public officers.” However, some states, such as New Jersey, have state statutes that specifically apply to local school members. The following chart is an attempt to break those “ethics” laws down by state, identify whether they have general or specific application to local school boards, and categorize the conduct being regulated, e.g. conflicts of interest, solicitation/acceptance of gifts. The chart is for reference purposes only. Statutory citations are provided if user wishes to view the specific statutory language.

STATE	STATUTORY DEFINITIOS	GENERAL (G)/SPECIFIC STATUTE (S)	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	USE OF OFFICE FOR PERSONAL GAIN	SOLICITATION/ ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS	CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FOR PERSONAL GAIN	COMMENTS
Alabama	§ 36-25-1	G	§ 36-25-5(f)	§ 36-25-5(a)-(c)	§ 36-25-5(d), (e) § 36-25-7	§ 36-25-8	
Alaska		G	§ 29.20.010 * § 14.08.131**				*only applies to municipal board members. **only applies to Regional Educational Attendance Area board members
Arizona		G	§ 38-503*				*also contains anti-nepotism provision in subsection D
California	Ed. Code § 35233	G/S	Gov. Code § 1090		Ed. Code § 60072		
Colorado	§ 24-18-102	G	§ 24-18-105*	§24-18-109	§ 24-18-104(1)(b)	§ 24-18-04(1)(a)	*this section provides ethical guidance but does not constitute violation of public trust
Connecticut							
Delaware	§ 5804(12)a(3)	G	§ 5805(a)		§ 5806(b)		
Florida	§ 112.312(2) § 112.313(1)	G	§ 112.313(3)		§ 112.313(2)		

Georgia		G/S	20-2-58.1* 20-2-505**				*anti-nepotism provision. ** specific application to school boards.
Hawaii	§ 84-2	G	§84-14		§ 84-11		
Idaho	§ 59-701*	G					*this section known as the "Ethics in Government Act of 1990" does not apply to school districts (see <i>Barton v. Alexander</i> , 148 P. 471 (Idaho 1015))

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Illinois	430/1-5	G			430/10-10 430/10-40		
Indiana	4-2-6-1	G	4-2-6-9		4-2-6-5		
Iowa	68B.2	G/S			68B.22 279.7A*		*applies specifically school board members' interest in public contracts
Kansas		G	75-4304				
Kentucky		G	160.180 61.080				
Louisiana		G/S	§ 1119*		§ 1115		*nepotism statute subsection B. (2)(a) applies specifically to local school board members
Maine		G/S	20-A § 1002* 30-A § 2605 30-A § 2605				*applies specifically to school board members
Maryland	15-811	G/S	15-804 15-812* 15-813*		15-813*		*applies specifically to school boards
Massachusetts		G	268A §§ 3-4		268A § 6A		
Michigan		G	15.342	15.342	15.342	15.342	
Minnesota		G	10A.07		10A.071		
Mississippi	25-4-3			25-4-105(3)		25-4-105(1)	
Missouri	105.450	G	105.452 105.454 105.458	105.452 105.454 105.458	105.452 105.454 105.458	105.452 105.454 105.458	
Montana		G	2-2-105(4),(5)	2-2-105(2)		2-2-105(2)	
Nebraska	§ 49-1443		§ 49-1443(D)		§ 49-1443(D)(2)		
Nevada		G	281.481(3),(4)	281.481(2)	281.481(1)	281.481(5)	
New Hampshire		G	95:1	640:2; 640:3; 640:4 *	640:5; 640:6 *		* criminal code violations
New Jersey	18A: 12-23	S	18A:12-24(a) 18A:12-24(d)	18A:12-24(b) 18A:12-24(c)	18A:12-24(e)	18A:12-24(f) 18A:12-24(i)	only applies to NJSBA employees'

			18A: 12-24 (g) 18A: 12-24 (h) 18A: 12-24 (j) 18A: 12-24 (k)*				involvement in CBA negotiations where family members are covered by CBA. 18a: 12-24.1 lays out school board member code of ethics.
New Mexico		S	22-5-5				22-5-6: anti-nepotism provision. 10-16-1 <i>et seq.</i> (Governmental Conduct Act) only applies to holders of state offices (see 10-16-2).

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New York		G	18: 801	18: 805-a (1)(c) 18: 805-a (1)(d)	18: 805-a (1)	18: 805-a (1)(b)	
North Carolina	14-234(a1)	G	14-234(a)(1)	14-234(a)(2)	14-234(a)(3) 133-32*	14-234.1	*covers the prohibition on acceptance of gifts from certain contractors and potential contractors with the school board.
North Dakota	15.1-07-17(2)*	S	15.1-07-17(1)*		15.1-07-19*		*criminal code
Ohio		G/S	3313.33* 2921.42**	102.03(D)***	102.03(E)* 102.03(H)*		*specifically applies to boards of education. ** general application to public officials. ***specific application to boards of education, Ethics Op 90-003 states that RC 102.03(D) prohibits a board member from using the authority or influence of his office over school personnel or students in the school district to secure business for his store.
Oklahoma		S	5-124				

Oregon		G	244.040(1)(a) 244.040(6)	244.040(3)	244.040(2) 244.040(5)	244.040(4)	
Pennsylvania		G	1103(a)		1103(c) 1103(d)		
Rhode Island		G	36-14-5(a) 36-14-5(b)	36-14-5(d)	36-14-5(i)	36-14-5(c)	
South Carolina			8-13-700(B)	8-13-700(A)	8-13-705		
South Dakota		G	6-1-1		22-12A-7*		*criminal code bribery statute

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Tennessee		G	12-4-101				
Texas		G/S	573.041*		36.02** 36.07*** 31.152****		*government code nepotism statute **penal code bribery statute. ***penal code honorarium statute. ****education code statute prohibiting textbook rebates.
Utah		G/S	10-3-1304(1) 10-3-1308 20A-14-202* 53A20-101** 67-16-9***	10-3-1304(2)(b)	10-3-1304(2)(c)	10-3-1304(2)(a)	*prohibition on school board member serving as employee of school district during term in office. **prohibits board members from having direct or indirect financial interest in school construction projects. ***prohibits personal investments creating a conflict.
Vermont	24 § 1984*	G					*statute enabling municipalities to adopt a conflict of interest ordinance/rule for elected and appointed officials (e.g. Town of Milton's conflict of

							interest ordinance at 24A § 701).
Virginia			2.2-3103(5) 2.2-3103(6)		2.2-3103(1) 2.2-3103(2) 2.2-3103(3) 2.2-3103(7)	2.2-3103(4)	
Washington		G	42.23.070(3)	42.23.070(1)	42.23.070(2)	42.23.070(4)	
West Virginia	6B-2-5(a)	G		6B-2-5(b)	6B-2-5(c)		
Wisconsin		G	946.13* 19.59(1)(br) 19.59(1)(c)	19.59(1)(a)	19.59(1)(b)		*criminal code
Wyoming		G	9-13-104* 9-13-107*				*anti-nepotism statutes