

**Valley Oaks Charter School
Conflict of Interest Policy**

The Governing Board members of the charter school owe a duty of loyalty to the organization, which requires that in serving the school they act, not in the personal interests or in the interests of others, but rather solely in the interests of the school. Governing Board members must have undivided allegiance to the school's mission and may not use their positions as Board Members, information they have about the school, or the school's property, in a manner that allows them to secure a pecuniary benefit for themselves or their relatives.¹

The conduct of personal business between any Board Member and the school is prohibited. Business transactions of the school in which a Board Member has an interest shall not be prohibited, but they shall be subject to close scrutiny. Such proposed transactions shall be reviewed carefully to determine that they are in the best interest of the school and that they will not lead to a conflict of interest. For the purposes of this policy, a Board Member has an interest in a proposed transaction if he/she has a substantial financial interest in it, or has a substantial financial interest in any organization involved in the proposed transaction, or holds a position as trustee, director, general manager, or principal officer in any such organization. Prior to the start of any negotiations, or consideration of a grant request by the organization, Board Members are expected to make full disclosure to the best of their knowledge of any dual interest in a proposed transaction by submitting a report to the Chairperson or other officer designated by the Board to handle such matters, supplying any reasons why their participation in the transaction would or would not be a conflict of interest, assuring the Board that they are acting in the best interest of the school. In matters requiring prior approval of the Governing Board, the Chairperson or other officer shall forward copies of this disclosure report to the Board before its approval.

A Governing Board Member with a dual interest in a proposed transaction shall not vote on the matter and shall not participate in any discussion of the material.

A Governing Board Member shall not use inside information of the school for his/her personal benefit, or use such inside information or his/her position as Board Member to the detriment of the school. Inside information is information obtained through the Board Member's position that has not become public information.

Each Governing Board Member has a duty to place the interest of the school foremost in any dealings involving the organization and has a continuing responsibility to comply with the requirements of this Policy. As a prerequisite to serving on the Governing Board, each Member must sign this Conflict of Interest statement.

This policy shall not apply to a Governing Board Member who is an employee of the granting Local Educational Agency and that employment would be the only potential conflict of interest.

I have read the above policy and agree to abide by the provisions stated.

Signed: _____ Position _____

¹For the purposes of this policy, relative means spouse, parents, siblings, children, grandchildren, the spouses of children and grandchildren, and any other blood relative, if the latter resides in the same household.

Adopted: 2/6/06

Amended: 12/05