# New Jersey Department of Education

## Chapter 28, School Ethics Commission

### Readoption with Amendments and New Rules

Office of Legal Affairs and School Ethics

Division of Legal and External Services

June 1, 2022



## Purpose of N.J.A.C. 6A:28

- The rules effectuate the School Ethics Act (Act), N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq., which seeks to ensure and preserve public confidence in the integrity of elected and appointed school officials.
- The Act prescribes the ethical standards by which school officials are to be guided in the conduct of their offices and positions.
- The Act also created the School Ethics Commission, which is charged with enforcing the Act through a procedure for reviewing complaints and ultimately rendering recommendations to the Commissioner of Education as to the imposition of sanctions when violations are substantiated.







N.J.A.C. 6A:28-1.2.

#### Previous Language

"Board member" means any person holding membership, whether by election or appointment, **upon being sworn in and taking office**, on any **district** board of education [other than the State Board of Education].

#### New Language

"Board member" means any person holding membership, whether by election or appointment, **upon being sworn in** [[and taking office]], on any district board of education [other than the State Board of Education].





N.J.A.C. 6A:28-3.2(f). Previous Language

(f) The board secretary, or the charter school or renaissance school project designee, shall review the disclosure statements to identify conflicts of interest, and shall maintain a list of the conflicts of interest set forth in the disclosure statements. This list shall contain the name of the school official, the name and position of the individual or the entity that forms the basis for the conflict of interest, and the issues from which the school official must recuse because of the conflict of interest. This list shall also be published on the school district's, charter school's, or renaissance school project's website.







N.J.A.C. 6A:28-3.2(f). New Language

(f) The board secretary, or the charter school or renaissance school project designee, shall review the disclosure statements to identify conflicts of interest[[, and shall maintain a list of the conflicts of interest set forth in the disclosure statements]]. [[This list shall contain the name of the school official, the name and position of the individual or the entity that forms the basis for the conflict of interest, and the issues from which the school official must recuse because of the conflict of interest. This list]] To the extent a website is maintained, the board secretary, or the charter school or renaissance school project designee, shall [[also be published]] post a link on the school district's, charter school's, or renaissance school project's website to each school official's most recently filed disclosure statement as it appears on the Commission's website. The link shall be posted on the same webpage as the contact information for each school official or on a standalone webpage for all school officials.







N.J.A.C. 6A:28-4.1(a).

[Each newly elected or appointed] Within the first [[60]] 90 days of a new board member's or [charter school] a new trustee's first term, the board member or trustee shall[, during the first year of his or her service on any board,] complete a training program prepared and offered by the New Jersey School Boards Association[, which]. The training shall include [in its content] instruction relative to the board member's or trustee's responsibilities under the Act.



### Thank You!

New Jersey Department of Education: nj.gov/education

Hanifa Barnes, Esq.

Assistant Commissioner, Division of Legal and External Services

#### Follow Us!



<u>Facebook:</u> @njdeptofed



<u>Twitter:</u>
<a href="mailto:overline;"><u>@NewJerseyDOE</u></a>



<u>Instagram:</u> <u>@NewJerseyDoe</u>

