

## Georgia Department of Education

Dear Superintendent:

On November 10, 2010, the State Board of Education adopted a Model Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policy. By law, your local board of education must adopt a local code of ethics within three months of the State Board of Education's adoption.

The Department has asked the Georgia Attorney General's office to submit the adopted Model Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policy to the U.S. Department of Justice for preclearance under the Voting Rights Act. This is appropriate because both may impact voting rights. The Attorney General's Office will submit the Model Code of Ethics and Conflict of Interest policy for preclearance in March, 2011.

If you adopt the Model Code of Ethics and Conflicts of Interest policy *without making any changes*, then the Attorney General will also submit your local code of ethics and conflict of interest policies for preclearance at the same time. **If you would like to take advantage of this gracious offer, please email the completed sample resolution adopted by your local board of education, including copies of the adopted code of ethics and conflict of interest policies, to Assistant Attorney General Ann Brumbaugh at [abrumbaugh@law.ga.gov](mailto:abrumbaugh@law.ga.gov) by February 28, 2011.** Additional contact information for Ms. Brumbaugh is below along with a copy of a sample resolution for your use.

If you do not adopt your local policies before this deadline or you wish to make changes to the Model Code of Ethics or Conflict of Interest policy, you *must* submit your local code of ethics and conflict of interest policies to the U.S. Department of Justice for preclearance before you can enforce these policies. Your local school board attorney can assist you with such preclearance. Your attorney may contact the Georgia Attorney General's Office if he or she has specific questions regarding submission of your individual code of ethics and conflicts of interest policies.

Please remember that no Code of Ethics or Conflict of Interest provision effecting an elected official's service in or removal from office is effective or enforceable unless and until it is precleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Additional Contact Information for Ms. Brumbaugh:

Assistant Attorney General  
Ann Brumbaugh  
Department of Law  
40 Capitol Square SW  
Atlanta, GA 30334-1300  
404-656-4666

Brad Bryant, State Superintendent of Schools  
December 30, 2010

**Sample County BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS AND  
CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-72 and State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.36 *Local School Board Governance* require a local board of education to adopt a code of ethics that includes, at a minimum, such model code of ethics as adopted by the Georgia State Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia State Board of Education adopted its model code of ethics to include a conflict of interest policy on November 10, 2010; and

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Sample County Board of Education adopts the code of ethics and conflict of interest policy as attached hereto, which are identical in substance as the model code of ethics and conflict of interest policy as adopted by the State Board of Education at its meeting on November 10, 2010.

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ BOARD OF EDUCATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chairperson (signature in blue ink required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEA Superintendent (signature in blue ink required)

Attachment

[Attach locally adopted code of ethics and conflict of interest]