

- B. routine "thank you" letters of the Board;
- C. statements by Board members on non-School matters (providing the statements do not identify the author as a member of the Board); or
- D. personal statements not intended for publication.
- E. A Board member's personal or private use of social media may have unintended, negative consequences to the Board member and/or the School, including possible violations of the Open Meetings Act and issues relating to creation of a public record. Postings to social media should be done in a manner sensitive to the Board member's responsibilities, applicable School policies, and legal obligations.

0144 Operations

0144.1 Compensation

Board members shall not receive annual compensation for service as a Board Member.

0144.11 Reimbursement of Expenses

Reference: MCL 380.1254; MCL 388.1764b

The Board shall pay the actual and necessary expenses of its members in the discharge of official duties or in the performance of functions authorized by the Board. The expenditure shall be a public record and shall be made available to a person upon request.

The Board shall approve payment of an expense incurred by a Board member only if either (1) the Board, by a majority vote of its members at an open meeting, approved reimbursement of the specific expense before the expense was incurred, or (2) the expense is consistent with the following policy, and the Board approves the reimbursement before it is actually paid:

The following categories of expenses shall be reimbursable:

- Mileage for Board-related activities and meetings, not to exceed the then-current rate established by the Internal Revenue Service;
- Expenses of attending a Board-approved conference, including fees, parking, mileage, meals and housing
- Expenses related to purchase of printed or other materials relating to Board membership; and
- Expenses of attending a community or School-related event, if the individual attends as the designated representative of the Board.

The following categories of expenses shall not be reimbursable:

- Expenses of attending a community or School-related event, if the individual attends as a private citizen;
- Entertainment expenses; and
- The purchase of alcoholic beverages.

A voucher detailing the amount and nature of each expense must be submitted to the School Board for approval at a Board meeting, prior to reimbursement.

0144.2 **Board Member Ethics**

Reference: Board of Directors, National School Boards Association

Members of the Board of Directors will strive to improve public education. To that end, Board members will do the following:

- A. attend all regularly scheduled and special Board meetings, insofar as possible, and stay informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
- B. endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings;
- C. render all decisions based on the available facts and independent judgment, refusing to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
- D. encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members and seek systematic communications among the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
- E. work with the other Board members to establish effective Board policies and delegate authority for the administration of the School;
- F. communicate to other Board members, Educational Service Provider and the School Leader expressions of public reaction to Board policies and School programs;
- G. inform themselves concerning current educational issues through individual study and participation in programs, which provide relevant information;
- H. support the employment of persons best qualified to serve as staff, and insist on regular and impartial evaluations of all staff;
- I. avoid conflict of interest and refrain from using their Board positions for personal or partisan gain;
- J. take no private action that may compromise the Board or administration and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law;
- K. remember that their first and greatest concern must be for the educational welfare of the students attending the School;
- L. observe all applicable statutory limitations and duties regarding conflicts of interest.