



June 14, 2012

Dr. Dan Lawson  
Director of Schools

Board of Education

J. Patrick Welsh  
Chairman

Sharon S. Vance  
Vice Chairman

Teresa A. Lawson  
Secretary

John Manis

Vickie W. Shelton

Linda W. Thoma

Daryl B. Welch

**Ms. Becky Bradley, Ethics Specialist**

**Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance**

**Tennessee Ethics Commission**

**404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 104**

**Nashville, TN 37243**

2012 JUN 20 AM 11:01  
BU OF ETHICS & CAMPAIGN FINANCE

**Dear Ms. Bradley:**

**I am in receipt of you letter dated June 12, 2012 requesting status of the Tullahoma Board of Education and our compliance with statute as related to "ethics standards adoption." On October 21, 2002 the Tullahoma Board of Education adopted Board Policy 1.106, the model policy provided by the Tennessee School Boards Association. That policy is in place today in our Board Policy manual which can be found online at [www.tullahomacityschools.net](http://www.tullahomacityschools.net).**

**If I can be of further assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am,**

**Very respectfully yours,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Lawson", is written over a circular blue stamp or seal.

**Dr. Dan Lawson, Superintendent**

**Tullahoma City Schools**

510 South Jackson Street

Tullahoma, Tennessee 37388-3468

931.454.2600

fax: 931.454.2642

# Tullahoma City Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in September</b>	Descriptor Term:  <b>Ethics</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>1.106</b>	Issued Date: <b>10/21/02</b>
		Rescinds: <b>2.6</b>	Issued: <b>09/20/99</b>

1 The Board adopts this Code of Ethics as a guide to its members as they provide educational leadership  
2 for the youth and citizens of Tullahoma.

## 3 4 **RELATIONS TO THE CHILDREN**

5  
6 Board members will: At all times think in terms of "children first," always determining  
7 other important things according to how they affect education and  
8 training of children.

9  
10 Seek to provide equal educational opportunities for all children  
11 regardless of ability, race, sex, creed or location of residence.

## 12 13 **RELATIONS TO COMMUNITY**

14  
15 Board members will: Endeavor to appraise fairly both the present and future educational  
16 needs of the community and to support improvements as finances  
17 permit.

18  
19 Represent at all times the entire school community and refuse to represent  
20 special interests or partisan politics.

21  
22 Endeavor to keep the community informed about the progress and needs of  
23 the schools.

## 24 25 **RELATIONS TO TEACHERS AND PERSONNEL**

26  
27 Board members will: Support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as  
28 employees and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff.

29  
30 Support and protect personnel in performance of their duties.

31  
32 Not criticize employees publicly but will make such criticism to the director  
33 of schools for investigation and action if necessary.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

**RELATIONS WITH OTHER BOARD MEMBERS**

- Board members will:
- Recognize that authority rests only with the Board in official meetings and that the individual member has no legal status outside of such meetings.
  - Refuse to make promises as to how I will vote on a matter which should properly come before the Board as a whole.
  - Make decisions only after full discussion of matters at a board meeting.
  - Respect the opinion of other members and will accept the principle of "majority rule."

**RELATIONS TO MYSELF**

- As a Board member I will:
- Inform myself about my duties and responsibilities and current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by my state and national school boards associations.
  - Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and will refrain from using my board position for personal or partisan gain.

# Tullahoma City Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in September</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Board Member Conflict of Interest</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>1.107</b>	Issued Date: <b>10/21/02</b>
		Rescinds: <b>2.11</b>	Issued: <b>11/09/92</b>

1 A board member shall not be directly interested in any contract in which the Board may be interested.  
2 "Directly interested" means any contract with the board member or with any business in which the board  
3 member is sole proprietor, a partner, or the person having controlling interest. "Controlling interest" shall  
4 include the individual with the ownership or control of the largest number of outstanding shares owned  
5 by any single individual or corporation.  
6

7 This policy shall not prohibit any board member from voting on the school budget or any budget  
8 amendments, unless the vote is on a specific budget amendment in which such board member is directly  
9 interested.  
10

11 A board member shall not be indirectly interested in any contract in which the Board may be interested  
12 unless the board member publicly acknowledges such interest. "Indirectly interested" means any contract  
13 in which the board member is interested but not directly so, as defined above, including contracts in which  
14 the board member may have a direct interest but is the sole supplier of goods or services in the county.  
15

16 Any board member who is an employee of the county/city and whose employment predates his/her initial  
17 election/appointment to the Board may vote on matters in which he/she has a conflict of interest if the  
18 member informs the Board immediately prior to the vote as follows: "Because I am an employee of (name  
19 of governmental unit), I have a conflict of interest in the proposal about to be voted. However, I declare  
20 that my argument and my vote answer only to my conscience and to my obligation to my constituents and  
21 the citizens the Board represents." The vote of any board member having a conflict of interest who does  
22 not inform the Board of such conflict shall be void if challenged during the same board meeting at which  
23 the vote was cast and prior to the transaction of any further business by the Board.  
24

25 Any board member who is also an employee of the county/city and whose employment began on or after  
26 the date on which he/she was initially elected/appointed to serve on the Board shall not vote on matters  
27 in which he has a conflict of interest.  
28

29 If a board member has a conflict of interest in a matter to be voted on by the Board, he/she may abstain  
30 for cause by announcing such to the chairman. Any board member who abstains from voting for cause  
31 on any issue coming to a vote before the Board shall not be counted for the purpose of determining a  
32 majority vote.<sup>1</sup>  
33

## 34 PENALTY FOR UNLAWFUL INTEREST

35  
36 If a board member becomes directly or indirectly interested in any such contract, he/she shall forfeit all  
37 pay and compensation and shall be dismissed from the Board and be ineligible to serve in the same or  
38 similar position for ten (10 ) years.<sup>1</sup>  
39

### 40 Legal References:

41 1. TCA 12-4-101; TCA 12-4-102

## Rebecca Bradley

---

**From:** Dan Lawson [lawsond2@k12tn.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:43 AM  
**To:** Ethics Counsel  
**Attachments:** Dan Lawson.vcf

The Tullahoma City Schools Board of Education is in the process of a comprehensive policy review and as of February 18, 2013 has adopted as policy the model policy provided us by the Tennessee School Boards Association (1.106). All of our policies may be found online at [www.tullahomacityschools.net](http://www.tullahomacityschools.net)

Please advise if additional information is needed.

Dan Lawson, Superintendent  
Tullahoma City Schools

