

**CODE OF ETHICS****POLICY**

The Board of Education of the Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-four (the "Board") is committed to avoiding any situation in which a conflict of interest between the Board or an employee of the Board and the School District exists. The Board recognizes that ethical standards of conduct for elected officers and employees must be observed if a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and the public confidence is to be maintained in the Board of Education and its employees. It is the purpose of this Code to promulgate rules of ethical conduct for all members of the Board of Education and its employees. Therefore, the Board and all of its employees, whether paid or unpaid, shall adhere to the following Code of Ethics:

1. **Use of School:** Members of the Board of Education and members of the professional and non-professional staff recognize their obligations to develop growing appreciation and understanding of the principles of democracy; and to refrain from using the school to promote personal views on religion, race or partisan politics.
2. **Gifts:** In accordance with General Municipal Law §805-a(1)(a), no member of the Board of Education, or employee of the District shall, directly or indirectly, solicit any gift. Such persons shall not accept or receive any gift or favor having a value of \$75 or more, regardless of what form such gift or favor may take.
3. **Confidential Information:** Members of the Board of Education and the District employees shall not disclose confidential information acquired by them in the course of their official duties, nor use this information to further any personal interest.

4. **Agreements:** No member of the Board of Education shall enter into any agreement, expressed or implied, for receipt of compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any area involving matters pertaining to the Board of Education and the School District.

5. **Compensation:** No employee of the Board of Education shall receive any compensation, except that expressly authorized and paid by the Board, for any services in connection with matters pertaining to the Board of Education and the School District.

6. **Disclosure of interest in matters before the Board:** A member of the Board and any officer or employee of the District, whether paid or unpaid, must publicly disclose the nature and extent of any interest they or their spouse have, will have or later acquire in any actual or proposed contract, purchase agreement, lease agreement or other agreement involving the District (including oral agreements), to the Board and his/her immediate supervisor. Such disclosure must be made in writing as soon as (s)he has knowledge of such actual or prospective interest. The disclosure shall be made part of the official record of the District. Disclosure is not required in the case of an interest in a contract is exempt under Section 802(2) of the General Municipal Law.

7. **Investments in conflict with official duties:** No member of the Board, nor employee of the District, shall hold any investment, directly or indirectly, in any financial business, commercial or private transaction which created a conflict with his elected or compensated duties.

8. **Private Employment:** No member of the Board, nor employee of the District, shall engage in or negotiate, or promise to accept private employment or to

render private services when these services are in conflict with his normal duties involving the Board.

9. **Future Employment:** No member of the Board, nor employee of the District shall, after the termination of service or employment with the District, appear before the Board in relation to any action, proceeding, or application in which he or she personally participated during the period of his or her service or employment or that was under his or her active consideration.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF CODE OF ETHICS**

The Superintendent of Schools shall cause a copy of this Code of Ethics to be distributed to all members of the Board and all employees of the District. Each member of the Board and employee elected or appointed thereafter shall be given a copy of the Code of Ethics upon his or her election to the Board or employment by the District.

#### **POSTING OF ARTICLE 18 OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW**

The Superintendent of Schools shall ensure that a copy of Article 18 of the General Municipal Law shall be kept posted in each school located in the District in a conspicuous place.

Board of Education

APPROVED: November 16, 1989

REVISED:

ADOPTED: February 15, 2007