

Employees of the Columbia County Board of Education are prohibited from accepting either directly or indirectly from any person, group, company, firm or corporation any rebate, gift, money or anything of value whatsoever, except when given for the use and benefit of the Columbia County Public Schools. For purposes of this policy, the following items shall not be deemed a thing of value:

- A. Food or beverage consumed at a single meal or event;
- B. Legitimate salary, benefits, fees, commissions, or expenses associated with a recipient's non-public business, employment trade or profession;
- C. An award, plaque, certificate, memento, or similar item given in recognition of the recipient's civic, charitable, political, professional or public service;
- D. Food, beverages and registration at group events to which all members of an agency, as defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section 21-5-30.2 are invited. An agency shall include the Georgia House of Representatives, the Georgia Senate, committees and subcommittees of such bodies, and the governing body of each political subdivision of this state;
- E. Actual and reasonable expenses for food, beverage, travel, lodging, and registration for a meeting which are provided to permit participation or speaking at the meeting;
- F. A commercially reasonable loan made in the ordinary course of business;
- G. Any gift with a value less than \$100.00;
- H. Promotional items generally distributed to the general public, the employee or distributed at conventions;
- I. A gift from a member of the employee's immediate family; or
- J. Food, beverage, or expenses afforded public officers, members of their immediate families, or others who are associated with normal and customary business or social functions or activities.

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Additionally , employees shall not solicit funds or other gifts for any purpose other than those approved by the Board of Education nor take any action which would give the appearance of impropriety.

PROCEDURE: NO

ADOPTED: 9/26/95

REVISED: 10/1/97