

**RICHLAND ACADEMY OF THE ARTS
NEW GOVERNING AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER APPROVAL POLICY**

Adopted: February 25, 2016
Revisited

POLICY: NEW GOVERNING AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER APPROVAL

SUBJECT: Community School Sponsorship Duties

PURPOSE: To ensure sponsored community school governing authorities' board members are in compliance with Ohio House Bill 2.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT: Ohio House Bill 2

INTRODUCTION:

On October 7, 2015, the Ohio legislature passed House Bill 2 (HB2). The bill includes high accountability structures for Ohio's community schools without compromising autonomy at the school level.

GOVERNING AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLY WITH HB2

1. Governing Authority board (board) members of a community school (school) will be required to file a disclosure statement annually. This statement must identify the names of any immediate relatives or business associates who are employed by the sponsor, the operator, any Educational Service Center with a contract with a school, and any vendor that has engaged in business with the school over the last several years.
2. Board members will be required to complete annual training on public records and open meeting laws.
3. Schools will be required to post the name of each governing board member on the school website (note: only the board member's name is required to be made public).
4. Board compensation will be limited to \$125 per meeting (\$60 per day for board training), and the annual compensation of \$5,000 will remain the total allowable amount.
5. A school's fiscal officer/treasurer will be required to be employed/engaged under contract directly with the school's board. The board may annually approve a resolution waiving this requirement, but sponsor approval is required in advance.

NEW BOARD MEMBER APPROVAL PROCESS

1. In accordance with the provisions of all contracts in force for the 2016-2017 school year, all new board members must be preapproved by Richland Academy of the Arts (RAA).
2. Prior to electing a new governing board member, the board/school must submit the following via email to RAA directly:
 - a) A BCI/FBI criminal background check of the potential member(s).
 - b) The signed RAA Governing Authority Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form.
3. RAA will verify that there are no criminal violations or conflicts which exist that would preclude the member from serving on the board.
4. RAA will not deny approval of a new board member unless potential conflicts of interest are identified and/or the BCI/FBI background checks result in disallowable board

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membership. It is not the intention of RAA to determine who is/is not a viable board member in terms of experience, knowledge, etc., but simply to hold the school's best interest in mind and to avoid legal and compliance issues with acting board members.

5. Within one week of submission, RAA will email the school to either confirm approval or supply specific reasons for disapproval.