ADVISORY OPINION OF THE
BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
ETHICS PANEL

The panel is issuing this advisory opinion pursuant to Policy BCA Code of Ethics Section III(B)(5), which provides that "any Board member, student commissioner, official, employee or other person subject to the provisions of this policy may request an advisory opinion from the Ethics Panel concerning the application of this policy."

On October 2, 2019, the Ethics panel received a request for an Advisory Opinion from [redacted] posing this question: "Can we compensate the [redacted] of the Parent and Community Advisory Board for moderating [redacted]?"

Per Policy BCA Code of Ethics, Article III(C)(1)(a)(i)(a), which states "Except as permitted by Board policy or in the exercise of an administrative or ministerial duty that does not affect the disposition of decision in the matter, an official may not participate in: any matter in which, to the knowledge of the official, the official or a qualified relative of the official has an interest; or any matter in which any of the following is a party: a business entity in which the official has a direct financial interest of which the official may reasonably be expected to know." An official as defined in the policy "Includes a member of the Board, an employee of the Board or City Schools, and the Chief Executive Officer. It does not include the student commissioner unless specifically designated."

For these reasons, this Ethics Panel determines there is no conflict of interest in the matter of [redacted], who is [redacted] of the Parent and Community Advisory Board, to moderate various [redacted]. This policy is not implicated because [redacted] is not a City Schools employee.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as presented. The Panel expresses no opinion as to matters that may exist now or in the future that have not been presented. Panel decisions are based on a case-by-case examination of the relevant factual information and applicable regulations.

Date: [redacted]

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted] Smith
The Reverend Domanic A. Smith, M.Div., CHM
Chair, Baltimore City Public Schools Ethics Panel