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 “[a]ny 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 July 23, 2020, the Ethics panel received a request for an Advisory Opinion from [redacted] regarding whether it was acceptable per Policy for [redacted] to conduct for payment First Aid/CPR trainings for a group of City School staff. On July 23, 2020 the Panel sent follow-up questions to [redacted] for additional information. [redacted] responded on August 26, 2020 confirming that the trainings would be conducted outside [redacted] regularly scheduled work hours. Further, [redacted] stated that of the $90/person fee; [redacted] retained $15/person for [redacted] services while $75/person was paid to the American Heart Association (AHA) for biennial certification cards. [redacted] is an official/employee of Baltimore City Public Schools, in which [redacted] serves as a detective with School Police.

Per Policy BCA Code of Ethics Section III(C)(2)(b) “...an official may not: i.) Be employed or have a financial interest in an entity that is doing business with the Board or City Schools.” [redacted] has indicated that [redacted] is conducting training on [redacted] own time. Lastly, the [redacted] is not included on the “list of vendors doing business with City Schools” that is updated and posted monthly under the Code of Ethics.

Therefore, based on the facts presented; Policy BCA Code of Ethics is not implicated in this matter.

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: September 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

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