

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

Board of Education members, in striving to improve public education, shall:

1. remember that the first and greatest concern is the educational welfare of the students attending public schools;
2. observe, support, and adhere to Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, and State and Federal laws and Constitutions;
3. confine Board action to policy making, goal setting, and planning, and delegate authority for school administration to the Superintendent of Schools;
4. represent the entire community to the best of his/her ability, and seek systematic communication between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
5. work cooperatively with fellow Board members despite differing opinions, and encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members;
6. use the Board position for unselfish service rather than personal or partisan gain, and avoid being in a conflict of interest position (policy 2170);
7. attend all Board meetings when possible, and be informed about issues of discussion at those meetings;
8. remember that the strength and legal authority of the Board is when in official Board meetings, not as individuals;
9. make sure controversial issues are presented without bias or prejudice; and base personal decisions and votes upon honest conviction and all available facts in each situation, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind;
10. abide by the final majority decisions of the Board, and when discussing Board policy, make the official Board position clear whether or not he/she agrees with the policy;
11. identify personal statements or actions as individual opinions, not as official Board positions;
12. refrain from disclosing confidential information, and from using such information to further personal interests;
13. use district funds, facilities, equipment, and supplies only for official Board business;
14. support the employment of those persons best qualified, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and insist on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff; and
15. maintain familiarity with educational issues, through study and participation in informational programs, such as those sponsored by state and national school boards associations.

Adoption date: March 13, 2012