

Board Member Covenants

In order to build and maintain productive and effective relationships, Board members shall maintain a system of communication and interaction that builds upon mutual respect and trust.

Accordingly, members will:

1. exercise honesty in all written and interpersonal communication
2. demonstrate respect for the opinions of others
3. focus on issues rather than on personalities
4. maintain focus on common goals
5. communicate in a timely manner to avoid surprises
6. respect majority decisions of the board
7. withhold judgment on issues until fully informed
8. seek first to understand rather than to be understood
9. criticize privately, praise publicly
10. use executive sessions appropriately and judiciously
11. maintain appropriate confidentiality
12. openly share individual concerns about the work of the board
13. take the initiative to communicate and ask questions for clarification
14. share information and knowledge
15. give direction as the whole, not as individuals
16. make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of the organization and one another

Members will not:

1. embarrass each other or the organization
2. intentionally mislead or misinform each other
3. maintain and/or act on hidden agendas
4. undermine majority decisions of the board
5. assume responsibility for resolving operational problems or complaints

Adopted: February, 2001
Amended: June, 2006
Monitoring Method: Board Self-Assessment
Monitoring Frequency: Annually in July