

Billings School District 2

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Code of Ethics for School Board Members

As a member of the Board of Trustees, I will strive to improve public education, and to that end I will:

- Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
- Recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at public Board meetings;
- Make all decisions based on available facts and my independent judgment and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
- Encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members and seek systematic communications between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
- Work with other Board members to establish effective Board policies and to delegate authority for administration to the Superintendent;
- Recognize and respect the responsibilities that properly are delegated to the Superintendent;
- Communicate to the Superintendent expression of public reaction to Board policies, school programs, or staff;
- Inform myself about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by the Montana and National School Boards Associations;
- Support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff and insist on regular and impartial evaluation of staff;
- Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest and refrain from using my Board position for personal or partisan gain;
- Avoid compromising the Board or administration by inappropriate individual action or comments and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law;

- Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of students attending Billings public schools.

Policy History:

First Reading: January 19, 2004 – Board of Trustees
Second Reading: February 16, 2004 – Board of Trustees
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