

*BOARD MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT*

As a member of my local school board, I will strive to improve public education and to that end I will:

1. Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings insofar as possible and devote time, thought and study to become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings so that I may render effective and creditable service;
2. Recognize that I should work with other Board members to establish effective policies only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings and uphold board policies, administrative regulations, and state and federal laws;
3. Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals, special interest groups, agencies, or outside pressures;
4. Encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members and will participate in board discussions in an open, honest and respectful manner, honoring differences of opinion or perspective. I will be diligent in following Roberts Rules of Order to ensure that my behavior in an open and public meeting will contribute positively to running a successful meeting.
5. Delegate authority for administration of the schools to the superintendent. I recognize that it is not my responsibility to run the schools but to see that they are well run; to understand that the basic function of a trustee is policymaking and not administration;
6. Communicate to other Board members and the superintendent expressions of public reaction to Board policies and school programs;
7. Model continuous learning and work to ensure good governance by taking advantage of board member development opportunities, such as those sponsored by my state and national school board associations, and encourage my fellow board members to do the same;
8. Support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;
9. Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest and refrain from using my Board position for personal or partisan gain;
10. Take no private action that will compromise the Board or administration and respect the confidentiality of information relating to district employees or students that is privileged under applicable law and maintain the confidentiality of all matters discussed in executive/closed session;
11. Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending the public schools;

12. Respectfully listen to those who communicate with the board, seeking to understand their views, while recognizing my responsibility to represent the interests of the entire community. I will also direct complaints to the superintendent and other appropriate staff members;

13. Strive for a positive working relationship with the superintendent, respecting the superintendent's authority to advise the board, implement board policy, and administer the district. I will strive to contact the superintendent before board meetings for more information on agenda items or to address concerns;

14. Present personal criticism of district operations to the superintendent, not to district staff or to the board in open meeting;

15. Remember that as an individual I have no legal authority outside the meeting of the board and I will conduct myself on the basis of this fact. I will develop professional relationships with the school staff, the community, and communication media as an individual.

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Board Member Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Board Member Signature

Policy #BBF  
Revised: 03/23/21