BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY

( ) Required
(X) Local
( ) Notice

The Board of Education recognizes that a comprehensive accountability system is necessary to improve the effectiveness of the Board of Education in providing leadership and the highest quality educational and support services.

Consistent with its obligations and commitments, the Board of Education will:

1. receive regular reports by the Superintendent of Schools concerning school district grievances and operations;

2. evaluate the performance of the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Board policy and the Board's agreement with the Superintendent of Schools;

3. evaluate progress toward the achievement of long-term and short-term goals and ensure that Board of Education policies and resources effectively support the vision of the Board of Education;

4. provide appropriate staff and Board of Education training opportunities; and

5. fulfill governance responsibilities as required by state and federal law.

6. perform a self-evaluation.

The Board of Education acknowledges that publicizing the Board of Education's progress and performance is important to maintaining the community's trust and support. The Board of Education is committed to keeping the public aware of such progress and performance.

It is incumbent upon Board of Education members to follow the law of the State of New York and the United States of America, as well as act in accordance with the rules of the Board of Regents and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Board of Education members have a further obligation to keep apprised of court rulings and administrative decisions that interpret and apply these laws, rules and regulations, and ensure that they make informative decisions based upon these laws.

Board of Education Authority

While the Board of Education has an array of responsibilities, it has the exclusive authority to:

1. hire and evaluate the Superintendent of Schools;
2. propose an annual budget to the voters of the School District; and

3. establish policy.

The Board of Education has a responsibility to act with fairness an integrity in these roles and other School District related business and activity.

Board of Education Decision Making

Board of Education members have a duty to be open to feedback and information received from all stakeholders.

Each Board of Education member should make decisions based on what he or she believes to be in the best interest of the community of stakeholders, including, but not limited to:

1. all students;
2. employees, including teachers, administrators and non-professional staff;
3. volunteers;
4. parents and guardians;
5. taxpayers;
6. employers, colleges, universities, and others with a vest interest in the education provided by the School District;
7. educational partners, business partners and contractors; and
8. the community at large.

Board of Education Member Standards

It is the duty of each Board of Education members to make a good faith effort to serve with integrity and to the best of one's ability. Each Board of Education member should use its best efforts to:

1. attend all Board of Education meetings;
2. be prepared for Board of Education meetings by reviewing relevant information; supplied by the Superintendent of Schools or District Clerk;
3. be well-versed in parliamentary procedure and the Open Meetings Law;
4. communicate and interact in a civil and professional manner with fellow Board of Education members, the Superintendent of School and School District stakeholders with the aim of serving as role models for all students;
5. encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board of Education members, and seek systematic communications between the Board of Education and students, staff and all elements of the community;
6. work with other Board of Education members to establish effective Board of Education policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the Superintendent of Schools;
7. communicate to other Board of Education members and the Superintendent of Schools expressions of public reaction to Board of Education policies and school programs;
8. understand and honor the roles and responsibilities of a Board of Education as opposed to those of the Superintendent of Schools;
9. keep abreast of current issues in education;

10. participate in training and educational opportunities relevant to his/her service on the Board of Education on an on-going basis;
11. make decisions based upon a careful review and discussion of relevant facts and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
12. endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board of Education meetings;
13. vote consistently with a sincere belief regarding what is in the best interests of students and other stakeholders, free from bias or favoritism;
14. respect and abide by each decision of the Board of Education as a whole, regardless of one's personal vote;
15. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;
16. maintain and respect confidentiality of students and staff;
17. understand and comply with rules related to executive sessions;
18. set high expectations for students and employees; and
19. to comply with all Board and District policies and encourage others to do the same.

In their official capacity, Board of Education members:

- should abide by the Code of Ethics set forth in Policy 2160;
- never use his/her position as a Board of Education member to benefit him/herself, a family member or any other individual or entity in a manner inconsistent with the law or his/her sincere belief that one is acting in the best interest of the School District and all stakeholders; and
- refrain from any private action that is (1) contrary to his/her oath of office; (2) antithetical to the formally adopted vision, mission and/or goal statements of the School District; and
- execute the attached statement of accountability upon assuming the position of member of the Board of Education.

Adoption Date:
February 27, 2019

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ACCOUNTABILITY EXHIBIT

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

1. attend all Board of Education meetings absent exigent circumstances;
2. be prepared for Board of Education meetings by reviewing relevant information; supplied by the Superintendent of Schools or District Clerk;
3. be well-versed in parliamentary procedure and the Open Meetings Law;
4. communicate and interact in a civil and professional manner with fellow Board of Education members, the Superintendent of School and School District stakeholders with the aim of serving as role models for all students;
5. encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board of Education members, and seek systematic communications between the Board of Education and students, staff and all elements of the community;
6. work with other Board of Education members to establish effective Board of Education policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the Superintendent of Schools;
7. communicate to other Board of Education members and the Superintendent of Schools expressions of public reaction to Board of Education policies and school programs;
8. understand and honor the roles and responsibilities of a Board of Education as opposed to those of the Superintendent of Schools;
9. participate in training and educational opportunities relevant to his/her service on the Board of Education on an on-going basis;
10. make decisions based upon a careful review and discussion of relevant facts and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
11. endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board of Education meetings;
12. **vote** consistently with a sincere belief regarding what is in the best interests of students and other stakeholders, free from bias or favoritism;
13. respect and abide by each decision of the Board of Education as a whole, regardless of one's personal vote;
14. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff; and
15. set high expectations for students, employees**,** self, and fellow board members;
16. maintain and respect confidentiality of students and staff;
17. understand and comply with rules related to executive sessions
18. make every effort to comply with all Board and District policies and encourage others to do the same.

Date:_____ **_____**

SIGNATURE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER