

**Tumwater School District
Board Policy**

CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

The Tumwater School District Board of Directors endorses the following code for school board members.

As a member of the Tumwater 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 become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
2. Recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;
3. Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
4. Encourage the free expression of opinion of all board members, and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
5. Work with other board members to establish effective board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the superintendent;
6. Communicate to other board members and the superintendent expression of public reaction to board policies, school programs, and other educational issues;
7. Inform myself about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by my state and national school boards association;
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;
10. Take no private action that will compromise the board or administration, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law;
11. Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of all students attending the public schools;
12. Work to help my community understand the importance and the need to support public education.

ADOPTED: January 12, 1978

REVISED: July 11, 2013