

BOARD/SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

Purpose:

The commitment of each board member to high ethical standards is required to ensure that the school board can responsibly fulfil its obligations and discharge its duties.

As a school board member...

1. I will be motivated by an earnest desire to serve my school district to the best of my ability to meet the educational needs of all students. To devote time, thought, and study to the duties and responsibilities of a school Committee member, so that I may render effective and creditable service.
2. I will recognize that the expenditure of school funds is a public trust, and I will endeavor to see that the funds are expended efficiently, in the best interests of the students.
3. I will not use my position for personal advantage or to the advantage of any other individual apart from the total interest of the school district, and I will resist outside pressure to so use my position.
4. I will act with integrity and do everything possible to maintain the dignity of the office of a school board member.
5. I will carry out my duties objectively and I will consider all information and opinions presented to the board in making my decisions, without bias.
6. I will work with other board members and the community in a spirit of respect, openness, co-operation, and proper decorum, in spite of differences of opinion that arise during debate.
7. I will accept that authority rests with the board and that I have no individual authority outside the board, and I will abide by the majority decisions of the board once they are made, but I shall be free to repeat the opinion that I upheld when the decision was made.
8. I will express any contrary opinion respectfully and honestly and without making disparaging remarks, in or outside board meetings, about other board members or their opinions.
9. I will communicate and conduct my relationship with staff, the community, other school boards, and the media in a manner that focuses on facts and respect.

10. I will not divulge confidential information which I obtain in my capacity as a board member, and I will not discuss those matters outside the meetings of the board or sub committees.

11. I will endeavor to participate in professional development opportunities to enhance my ability to fulfill my obligations as a school board member.

12. I will not conduct myself in a manner which is intended to be to the detriment of another school board member.

13. I will support the value of public education, and will endeavor to participate in activities that support or promote public education in the Bristol Warren Regional School District.

***To be distributed to all School Board members at the organizational meeting in November.**

ADOPTED: March 25, 2002

REVISED: October 28, 2024