

Governance of the Board

Code of Ethics

The Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees will:

1. Be staunch advocates of high-quality education for all students of The Academy.
2. As agents of The Academy, uphold and enforce all laws, rules, regulations and court orders pertaining to The Academy. Each Trustee will strive to bring any needed change only through legal and ethical procedures.
3. Strive to help create an Academy which meets the individual educational needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, gender identity, physical condition or social standing.
4. Work to help the sending communities understand the importance of proper support for education, whether it be in providing adequate finances, optimum facilities, staffing and resources, or better educational programs for students.
5. Recognize that their responsibility is not to "run The Academy" through administration but together with fellow trustees, to see that it is well-run through effective policies.
6. Attempt to confine Board action to policy-making, planning and appraisal, and will help to implement policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by its actions.
7. Arrive at conclusions only after discussing all aspects of the issue at hand with fellow trustees in a meeting. Trustees will respect the opinions of others and abide by the principle of majority-rule.
8. Recognize that authority rests only with the whole Board assembled in a meeting and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the Board.
9. Acknowledge that the Board will refuse to surrender independent judgment to special interests or partisan political groups. Trustees will never use their individual position on the Board for personal gain or for friends.
10. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to The Academy which, if disclosed, might needlessly injure individuals or The Academy.
11. Insist that all Academy business transactions be open and ethical.
12. Appoint the best professional leader available when a vacancy exists in the Head of School position.
13. Provide guidance to the Head of School to appoint the best trained technical and professional personnel available, upon recommendation by the appropriate administrative officer.
14. Support and protect The Academy personnel in the proper performance of their duties, and to ensure that all personnel have not only the requisite responsibilities, but also the necessary authority to perform effectively.
15. Refer all complaints through the proper "chain of command" within the system and will act on such complaints at public meetings only when administrative solutions fail.

This policy should be provided to the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting and be part of any Trustee Orientation.

Policy Adopted: August 25, 1992

Policy Updated: March 21, 2017

The Woodstock Academy

Woodstock, Connecticut