

**PROPOSED CODE OF CONDUCT & VSBA CODE OF CONDUCT
COMPARISON CHART**

Proposed Code	VSBA CODE
Place the safety, well-being, and academic success of students above all other interests.	It is important that each member of the School Board strive to be an advocate for students to improve public education. Each member of the School Board will always remember that the foremost concern of the School Board is to improve and enhance the teaching and learning experience for all students in the public schools in Virginia.
Uphold the highest standards of honesty, integrity, and accountability. Avoid conflicts of interest, self-dealing, preferential treatment, or the appearance of impropriety. Do not use the position for personal or financial benefit or misuse authority for private interests. Act respectfully and professionally at all times.	Each School Board Member should have integrity in all matters and support the full development of all children and the welfare of the community, Commonwealth of Virginia, and Nation. Each member of the School Board will respect the confidentiality of privileged information and will make no individual decisions or commitments that might compromise the actions of the School Board or school administration. Each member of the School Board will seek to encourage desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, in accordance with all laws, state regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Each member of the School Board agrees not to use the position of School Board member for personal or partisan gain and will seek to avoid any conflict of interest or the appearance of impropriety.
Attend meetings prepared, review materials in advance, ask informed questions, and make decisions based on facts, law, data, and community input.	Each member of the School Board should attend School Board meetings and seek to be informed concerning issues under consideration
	Each member of the School Board agrees to communicate to the full School Board and superintendent, in accordance with School Board policies, public reaction and opinion regarding School Board policies and school programs.

<p>Set policy, provide fiscal stewardship, and hold the division accountable for results. Exercise diligent oversight of budgets, contracts, programs, and the responsible use of taxpayer funds.</p>	
<p>Delegate day-to-day operations while establishing clear expectations, measurable goals, regular performance evaluation, and transparent accountability. The Superintendent is accountable to the Board. Delegation does not diminish the Board's authority or oversight responsibility.</p>	<p>Each member of the School Board understands that the authority for the administration of the schools is vested in the superintendent, and the superintendent is responsible for establishing a process of accountability for administrators.</p>
<p>Promote open communication, lawful transparency, and clear decision-making to maintain public confidence.</p>	<p>Each member of the School Board will seek to encourage individual School Board member expressions of opinion and will also seek to facilitate an open, two-way communication process with all segments of the community.</p>
<p>Recognize parents and guardians as the primary decision-makers and advocates for their children. Protect their right to transparency, timely information, meaningful involvement, and direct access to their elected representatives.</p>	
<p>Remain accessible and responsive to parents, staff, and citizens while encouraging civil, constructive, and respectful discourse.</p>	
<p>Prioritize safe schools and pursue ongoing learning to strengthen governance and leadership effectiveness.</p>	<p>Each member of the School Board will seek to be informed about current educational issues through individual study and participation in appropriate programs, such as those sponsored by the Virginia School Boards Association and the National School Board Association.</p>