No. 9510
SECTION: BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
TITLE: CODE OF CONDUCT

ADOPTED: 6/19/06
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REVISED:

# OXFORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

We, as members of our local board of education, representing all the residents of our school district, believe that:

- Striving toward ideal conditions for effective board service to our community, in a spirit of teamwork and devotion to public education, is the greatest instrument for preserving and perpetuating our representative democracy.
- The future welfare of this community, commonwealth and nation depends upon the quality of education we provide in the public schools.
- In order to maintain a free and strong country, our civic obligation to the community, commonwealth and nation is to maintain free and strong public schools in the United States of America, without surrendering our responsibilities to any other person, group or organization.
- Boards of school directors share responsibility for ensuring a "thorough and efficient system of public education" as required by the Pennsylvania Constitution.
- Our fellow residents have entrusted us with the advocacy for and stewardship of the education of the youth of this community.
- The public expects that our first and greatest priority is to provide equitable educational opportunities for all youth.

Accordingly,

- The community should be provided with information about its schools and be engaged by the board and staff to encourage input and support for the school system.
- Devoting time, thought and study to our duties and responsibilities as school board members is critical for rendering effective and credible service.
- Board members should work together in a spirit of harmony, respect and cooperation, despite differences of opinion.
- Personal decisions should be based upon all sufficient facts. We should vote our honest conviction without partisan bias, and we will abide by and uphold the majority decision of the board.
- Individuals have no legal authority outside the meetings of the board, and should conduct their relationships with all stakeholders and media on this basis.
- We will not use our positions as school directors to benefit ourselves or any individual or agency.
- School boards must balance their responsibility to provide educational programs with the need to be effective stewards of public resources.
- We should recognize that the primary responsibility of the board is to

adopt policies by which the schools are to be administered.

- We should respect that the superintendent of schools and his or her staff are responsible and accountable for the delivery of the educational programs and the conduct of school operations.
- Communication with all stakeholders and the media should be conducted in accordance with board policy.