

Board Members' Code of Conduct

The Board commits itself and its members to ethical, businesslike, and lawful conduct, including members' proper use of authority and appropriate decorum while acting as directors or trustees.

Among other interpretations within this policy:

1. Members must have loyalty to the citizen-ownership, unconflicted by loyalties to staff, other organizations, and any self-interest.
2. Members must avoid conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibilities.
 - a. There will be no self-dealing or business by a Board member with the District or its affiliates. Members will annually disclose their involvements with student, parent, community, civic, political or other organizations or with vendors, staff or students and any other associations that might be reasonably seen as representing even a remote conflict of interest.
 - b. When the Board is to decide an issue about which a member has an unavoidable conflict of interest, that member shall disclose such conflict and not participate in the deliberation or the vote.
 - c. Board members will not use their Board position to obtain employment in the District or its affiliates for themselves, family members, or close associates. A Board member must first resign from the Board for a period of six months before applying for employment.
 - d. An employee who becomes a candidate for the Board shall automatically be deemed to be on an extended leave of absence during his or her candidacy. An employee candidate who successfully becomes a board member shall be deemed to have automatically and voluntarily resigned as an employee, effective upon taking the oath of office as a Board member.
3. Board members may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the District, its affiliates, or any of their parts or staff.

GP 1.6

- a. Members' interaction with the Superintendent or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individual board members except when explicitly authorized by the Board.
 - b. Members' interactions with the public, the press, or other entities must recognize the same limitation and the inability of any Board member to speak for the Board except to repeat explicitly stated Board decisions.
 - c. Except for participation in Board deliberation about whether the Superintendent has achieved any reasonable interpretation of Board policy, members will not express individual judgments of performance of staff including the Superintendent.
4. Members will respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
 5. Members will be properly prepared for Board deliberation.
 6. Members will support the legitimacy and authority of the final determination of the Board on any matter, irrespective of the member's personal position on the issue.

Adopted: September 25, 2007