



## School Board Member's Code of Ethics

As a member of the board, I shall promote the best interests of the school district as a whole, and, to that end, I shall adhere to the following educational and ethical standards:

1. Bring about desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, upholding and enforcing all laws, State Board of Education rules, and court orders pertaining to schools.
2. Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of all children in the district, regardless of ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
3. Recognize that decisions must be made by the board as a whole, make no personal promise and not take private action that may compromise the board.
4. Focus board action on policymaking, goal setting, planning, and evaluation. Insist on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff.
5. Support and protect school personnel in the proper performance of their duties.
6. Vote to appoint the best qualified personnel in the proper performance of their duties.
7. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to schools that, if disclosed, may needlessly injure individuals or the schools. Respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law.
8. Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings.
9. Delegate authority for the administration of the school to the superintendent.
10. Endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings. Render all decisions based on the available facts and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special groups.
11. Encourage the free expression of opinion by all board members and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community.
12. Communicate to board members and the superintendent at appropriate times expressions of public reaction to board policies and school programs.
13. Inform myself about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by my state and national school boards associations.
14. Refrain from using my board position for personal or partisan gain.
15. Make certain the board remains responsive to the community.
16. Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare and academic performance of all the students attending the public schools.