

Board Members' Code of Conduct

The Board and its members will conduct themselves lawfully with integrity and high ethical standards in order to model the behaviors expected of staff and students and to build public confidence and credibility.

1. Board members will serve the interests of the community of the entire District. Members recognize this responsibility to the whole to be greater than:
 - a. any loyalty a member may have to any other advocacy or interest groups;
 - b. loyalty based upon membership on other boards or staffs;
 - c. conflicts based upon the personal interest of any Board member who is also a parent of a student in the District;
 - d. conflicts based upon being a relative of an employee of the District; or
 - e. conflicts based upon the member's election from a subsection of the District.
2. Board members will not exercise individual authority over the District.
 - a. Members will not assume personal responsibility for resolving operational problems or complaints.
 - b. Members will not personally direct any part of the operational organization.
 - c. When speaking to the press or otherwise publicly sharing personal opinions, members will respect decisions of the Board and will not undermine its decisions.
 - d. Members will not publicly express individual negative judgments about the Superintendent or an employee's individual performance. Any such judgments of Superintendent or staff performance will be made only by the Board, meeting in Closed Session.
 - e. To avoid the appearance of personal involvement in operational decision-making, members will not support the candidacy of an individual for staff appointment with the District.
3. To build trust among members and to ensure an environment conducive to effective governance, members will:
 - a. Focus on issues rather than personalities, always putting every student and their needs first
 - b. Respect decisions of the full Board

- c. Exercise honesty in all written and interpersonal interaction, never intentionally misleading or misinforming each other
 - d. Criticize privately, praise publicly
 - e. Make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of the District and one another
 - f. Never embarrass each other or the District
4. Members will exercise personal discipline in the performance of their duties, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as Board members.
5. Members shall maintain confidentiality appropriate to sensitive issues and information that otherwise may tend to compromise the integrity or legal standing of the Board, especially those matters discussed in Closed Session.

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

5095 Powers of remaining governing board members and new appointees

32210 Willful disturbance of public school or meeting; offense

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35145.5 Legislative intent; agenda; public participation

35160 Authority of governing boards commencing January 1, 1976

35163 Official actions, minutes and journal

35164 Vote requirements

GOVERNMENT CODE

1090 Conflicts of interest

Adopted: April 24, 2007

Revised: February 10, 2009

Revised: April 8, 2014

Revised: March 10, 2015

Revised: October 10, 2017

Revised: June 29, 2021

Monitoring Method: *Board self-assessment*

Monitoring Frequency: *Annually*