

## **Code of conduct for school board members**

### **A school board member:**

- Understands that the board sets the standards for the district through board policy.
- Board members do not manage the district on a day-to-day basis.
- Understands that the board makes decisions as a team.
- Individual board members may not commit the board to any action.
- Respects the right of other board members to have opinions and ideas that differ.
- Recognizes that decisions are made by a majority vote and should be supported by all board members.
- Makes decisions only after the facts are presented and discussed.
- Understands the chain of command and refers problems or complaints to the proper administrative office.
- Recognizes that the board must comply with the Public Meetings Law and has authority to make decisions only at official board meetings.
- Insists that all board and district business is ethical and honest. Is open, fair and honest -- has no hidden agenda.
- Understands that he or she will receive confidential information that cannot be shared.
- Recognizes that the superintendent is the board's adviser and should be present at all meetings, except when the board is considering the superintendent's evaluation, contract or salary.
- Takes action only after hearing the superintendent's recommendations.
- Refuses to use board membership for personal or family gain or prestige. Announces conflicts of interest before board action is taken.
- Refuses to bring personal or family problems into board considerations.
- Gives the staff the respect and consideration due skilled professional employees.
- Presents personal criticism of district operations to the superintendent, not to district staff or to a board meeting.
- Respects the right of the public to attend and observe board meetings.
- Respects the right of the public to be informed about district decisions and school operations as allowed by law.