

BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT

Purpose

The purpose of the Board is to promote the interests of students, to ensure community values are represented in the operation of the school, to follow responsible stewardship of resources and to lead the district by demanding excellent school district performance.

To distinguish the Board's own unique duties from those of the superintendent and staff, the Board will concentrate its efforts on the following:

1. Ensuring that the Ends – results and benefits for students – are the focus of school district performance.
2. Ensuring that the entire Stanley-Boyd community – voters, taxpayers, parents, students and staff – have an appropriate voice in setting the district's future.
3. Ensuring the long-term financial stability of the district and overseeing prudent use of district finances and property.
4. Developing written governing policies which address:
 - a. **Ends:** Results and benefits for student.
 - b. **Superintendent Limitations:** Legal, ethical and practical boundaries on management authority within which all management activity takes place.
 - c. **Governance Process:** How the Board will carry out and monitor its work.
 - d. **Board / Superintendent Relationship:** How authority is delegated and its proper use monitored.
5. Ensuring superintendent performance by monitoring Ends and Limitations policy.
6. Ensuring Board performance by monitoring Governance and Relationship policy.

Conflict of Interest

Board members are expected to avoid conflicts of interest on matters before the Board.

Accordingly:

1. Board members are expected to comply with the State Ethics Code. If a member has a personal or monetary interest in any matter pending before the Board, the member shall disclose such interest to the Board, shall not vote on the matter, and shall not attempt to influence the decisions of other Board members.
2. The board shall not enter into any contract with any of its members or with a firm in which a member has a financial interest.

BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT (cont.)

3. A Board member shall not:
 - a. Disclose or use confidential information acquired during the performance of official duties to further the Board member's own financial interests or the interests of a person in the Board member's immediate family.
 - b. Accept a personal gift of substantial value or benefit, which would tend to improperly influence a reasonable person, or which the member knows or should know is primarily for the purpose of a reward for official action.
 - c. Engage in a substantial financial transaction for private business purposes with a person whom the board member directly or indirectly supervises.

Authority

The board commits itself and its members to ethical conduct and proper use of authority.

Accordingly:

1. Board members will represent the interests of the citizens of the entire school district. This accountability to the whole district supersedes:
 - a. Any conflicting loyalty a member might have to other interest groups.
 - b. Loyalty based on membership on other boards or staffs.
 - c. The personal interest of any board member who is also a parent.
 - d. Conflicts based upon being related to an employee of the district.
2. Board members will not attempt to exercise individual authority over the school.
 - a. Interaction with the superintendent or with staff must recognize the lack of individual authority except when explicitly granted by the board.
 - b. Interaction with the public, press or other entities must recognize the same inability to speak for the board except to repeat stated board decisions.
3. Board members will maintain confidentiality of sensitive information that otherwise might compromise the integrity or legal standing of the board, especially those matters discussed in executive session.

Covenants

Board members agree to the following code of behavior:

External

- To respect the designated roles of Board member vs. staff
- To demonstrate respect for parents, students and staff
- To participate in and attend school functions and events
- To get to know the staff and show one's self in the school buildings
- To not publicly express negative judgments about the superintendent, staff or fellow board members

BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT (cont.)

Internal

- To prepare for and attend all meetings
- To make use of educational opportunities for Board development
- To demonstrate respect for each other and for the integrity of the Board
- To observe agenda and open meetings requirements
- To practice a professional level of meeting decorum and courtesy
- To not undermine, with staff or the public, majority decisions of the Board

Enforcement

In the event of a member's willful or continued violation of these policies, any Board member may seek remedy by the following process:

- a. Notification of the violation given to the president of the Board.
- b. Private conversation between the offending member and the Board president or other individual member.
- c. Discussion in public session (or in executive session if permitted by law) between the offending member and the full board.
- d. Public censure of the offending member by vote of the full Board.

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