

BCA – SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ETHICS

Each Board member shall comply with the following ethical provisions:

1. Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings, insofar as possible, and become informed concerning issues to be considered at those meetings.
2. Make decisions only after full discussion at public Board meetings; render all decisions based on the available facts; and use independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups or for personal gain.
3. Follow systematic communications with students, staff, and members of the community following the chain of command per Board policy.
4. Work respectfully with other Board members to achieve the educational goals of the school district by encouraging the free expression of opinions by all Board members.
5. Communicate to other Board members and the Superintendent expressions of public reaction to Board policies and school programs.
6. Be informed about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by state and School Board association.
7. Support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff.
8. Respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law or is received in confidence or nonpublic session.
9. Recognize that no individual member has authority to speak or act for the entire Board, except as specifically designated to do so by Board action.
10. Recognize that no individual member, even when serving as a committee member on behalf of the Board or per administrative request, has the authority to speak or act for the entire Board, except as specifically designated to do so by Board action.
11. Refrain from serving as officers on any school or school district related committee and/or organization, recognizing that such action gives the perception of authority to an individual Board member even when the individual Board member does not have the authority.
12. Recognize that final Board actions will be supported by all members of the Board; take no private action that will compromise the Board or administration; and refrain from private actions which undermine or compromise official Board or administrative action.
13. Display and demonstrate courtesy and decorum toward fellow Board members at all public meetings and in all public statements.
14. Remember always that the first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of all students attending Epping schools.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Handbook (None)

APPROVED: July 17, 2008

PREVIOUS POLICY: November 15, 1976 “Code of Ethics for School Board Members”
December 9, 1976 “Duties of Board Members”