BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Member Code of Conduct

No School Board member shall: (1) have a beneficial interest directly or indirectly in any contract, work, or business of the District unless permitted by State or federal law; or (2) solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to agreements or contracts with the District. Situations in which the interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value must comply with State law and Board Policy regarding *Ethics and Gift Ban.*

School Board members shall:

1. Take no private action that might compromise the Board or administration and shall not attempt to exercise individual authority over the District, and shall respect the confidentiality of privileged information;
2. Represent all School District constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender his/her responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups;
3. Avoid any conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety which could result from his/her position, shall not use School Board membership for personal gain or publicity, and shall govern all interaction with the Superintendent and/or staff accordingly;
4. Recognize that a School Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a necessary majority vote of those present at a School Board meeting;
5. Abide by majority decisions of the School Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels;
6. Encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by fellow School Board members and others who seek a hearing before the School Board;
7. Disclose to the full Board, on a biennial basis during the Board self-evaluation session, all regular activities the member is involved in regarding the District. Any additional activities between Board self-evaluations shall be disclosed at monthly regular board meetings.
8. Be involved and knowledgeable about not only local educational concerns, but also about state and national issues.

In addition, School Board members shall pursue the following:

1. The development of educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of ability, race, sex, religion, color, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identity, or social standing;
2. The development of procedures for the regular and systematic evaluation of programs, staff performance and School Board operations;
3. The development of effective School Board policies;
4. The development of systematic communications with staff, students and community; and
5. The development of sound business practices.

LEGAL REF: 105ILCS 5/10-16.5

APPROVED: MAY 12, 2020
RE-ADOPTED: APRIL 11, 2023