

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Code of Ethics for School Trustees

AS A MEMBER OF MY LOCAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES, I WILL STRIVE TO IMPROVE PUBLIC EDUCATION, AND TO THAT END I WILL:

Attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;

Recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings;

Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;

Encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members, and seek systematic communications between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;

Work with other Board members to establish effective Board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the School to the Superintendent;

Recognize and respect the responsibilities that properly are delegated to the Superintendent;

Communicate to the Superintendent expression of public reaction to Board policies, school programs, or staff;

Inform myself about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by the Montana and National School Boards Associations;

Support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff, and insist on regular and impartial evaluation of staff;

Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and refrain from using my Board position for personal or partisan gain;

Avoid compromising the Board or administration by inappropriate individual action or comments, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law;

To strive sincerely to build better relationships with one another and with the school Superintendent;

To vote our individual convictions and do what we can to destroy factionalism on the Board;

Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending public schools.

Policy History:

Adopted on: October 8, 1996

Proposed revisions at Policy Committee meeting, October 28, 1997

Revisions adopted on: December 9, 1997

Proposed Minor Revisions at Policy Committee meeting October 26, 2005

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