

Policy Title: 4.7 Board Members' Code of Conduct

The board commits itself and its members to ethical, businesslike, and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as board members.

1. Members must demonstrate loyalty to the ownership, not conflicted by loyalties to staff, other organizations, or any personal interests as parents or guardians.
2. It is the ethical and legal duty of all board members to avoid conflicts of interest as well as the appearance of conflicts of interest. Conflict of interest means a situation when a board member's private interests, as distinguished from the board member's interest as a member of the general public, would benefit from or be harmed by his or her actions as a member of the board. In order to comply with the obligations thus imposed, the board and its members will adhere to the following standards.
 1. Board members will be familiar with, and adhere to, those provisions of Vermont education law, which define School Board powers and govern board member compensation and public bidding processes.
 2. A board member will not take any action that is intended to give the impression that he or she would represent special interests or partisan politics for personal gain.
 3. A board member will not use his or her position on the board in any manner intended to unfairly promote personal financial interests or the financial interests of family members, friends or supporters.
 4. A board member will not accept anything of value in return for taking particular positions on matters before the board.
 5. A board member will do nothing intended to leave the impression that his or her position on any issue can be influenced by anything other than a fair presentation of all sides of the question.
3. Board members may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the organization. A board member will do nothing intended to give the false impression that he or she has the authority to make decisions or take action on behalf of the board or the school administration. As such;
 1. Members' interaction with the superintendent or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individuals except when explicitly authorized by the board.
 2. Members' interactions with the public, the press, or other entities must recognize the same limitation and the inability of any board member to speak for the board except to repeat explicitly stated board decisions.
 3. Except for participation in board deliberation about whether the superintendent has achieved any reasonable interpretation of board policy, members will not express individual judgments of performance of employees, volunteers or the superintendent.
 4. Members will respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
 5. Members will be properly prepared for board deliberation.
 6. Members will support the legitimacy and authority of the final determination of the board on any matter, irrespective of the member's personal position on the issue.


Board Member-Tori Cleiland


Board Member-Kamal Dahal


Board Member-Alexander Yin


Board Member-Steven Berbeco


Board Member-Allison Burlock

October 13, 2021