

Corbett School District 39

Code: **BBF**
Adopted: 10/17/96
Revised/Readopted: 10/16/97, 12/17/98, 4/18/01,
2/21/07
Orig. Code(s): BBAA/BBF

Board Member Ethics

A school Board member should:

1. Understand that his/her basic function is “policy making” and not “administrative”;
2. Discourage standing subcommittees of the Board, however, the Board recognizes the value of forming ad hoc committees at various times to address specific issues;
3. Respect the rights of school patrons to be heard at official meetings;
4. Recognize that authority rests only with the Board in official meetings;
5. Recognize that he/she has no legal status to act for that Board outside of official meetings;
6. Refuse to participate in “secret” meetings, or other irregular meetings which are not official and which all members do not have the opportunity to attend or have not been advertised;
7. Refuse to make commitments on any matter which should properly come before the Board as a whole;
8. Make decisions only after all available facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed;
9. Respect the opinion of others and graciously accept the principle of “majority rule” in Board decisions;
10. Recognize the superintendent should have full administrative authority for properly discharging his/her professional duties within limits of established Board policy;
11. Act only after hearing the recommendations of the superintendent in matters of employment or dismissal of school personnel at an official meeting;
12. Recognize that the superintendent is the educational adviser to the Board and should be present at all meetings of the Board except when his/her contract and salary are under consideration;
13. Refer all complaints or problems to the proper administrative office and discuss them only at a regular meeting after failure of administrative solution;

14. Present personal criticisms of any school operation directly to the superintendent rather than to school personnel;
15. Insist that all school business transactions be on an ethical and above board basis;
16. Refuse to use his/her position on a school Board in any way, whatsoever, for personal gain or for personal prestige;
17. Refuse to bring personal problems into Board considerations;
18. Advocate honest and accurate evaluation of all past employees when such information is requested by another school district;
19. Give the staff the respect and consideration due skilled professional personnel.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 162.015 - 162.035](#)

[ORS 162.405 - 162.425](#)

[ORS 192.630](#)

[ORS 244.040](#)

[ORS 244.120](#)

[ORS 332.045](#)

[ORS 332.055](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

[ORS 332.075](#)

Opinions of the Attorney General, Vol. 38, p. 1995 (1978)

South Benton Education Association v. Monroe UH School District 1, 83 Or. App. 425 (1987).