

Multnomah Education Service District

Code: **BBF**
Adopted: 9/20/94
Revised/Readopted: 3/15/05; 9/20/05, 2/20/07;
9/21/10

Board Member Standards of Conduct

Individual Board members and the Board as a public entity must comply with the Code of Ethics for public officials provided in state law.

Board members shall treat other Board members, the Superintendent, staff and the public with dignity and courtesy and shall provide an opportunity for all parties to be heard with due respect for their opinions.

Board members shall recognize the Superintendent as the chief executive officer to whom the Board has delegated administrative authority to establish regulations and oversee the implementation of Board policy.

A Board member has the right to express personal opinions. When expressing such opinions in public, the Board member should clearly identify the opinions as personal.

A Board member shall respect the privacy rights of individuals when dealing with confidential information gained through association with MESD.

A Board member will keep information discussed in executive session confidential.

A Board member shall utilize social media Web sites judiciously by not posting confidential information about students, staff or MESD business. Board members shall treat fellow Board members, staff, students and the public with respect while posting and shall adhere to Oregon Public Meetings Laws when communicating with other Board members via Web sites or other electronic means.

A Board member shall:

1. Understand that the Board sets the standards for MESD through Board policy. Board members do not manage MESD on a day-to-day basis;
2. Understand that the Board makes decisions as a team. Individual Board members may not commit the Board to any action;
3. Respect the right of other Board members to have opinions and ideas which differ from yours;
4. Recognize that decisions are made by a majority vote and should be supported by all Board members;
5. Make decisions only after the facts are presented and discussed;
6. Understand the chain of command and refer problems or complaints to the proper administrative office;

7. Recognize that the Board shall comply with the Public Meetings Law and only has authority to make decisions at official Board meetings;
8. Insist that all Board and MESD business is ethical and honest;
9. Be open, fair and honest -- no hidden agendas;
10. Understand that you shall receive information that is confidential and cannot be shared;
11. Keep information discussed in executive session confidential;
12. Recognize that the Superintendent is the Board's adviser and should be present at all meetings, except when the Board is considering the Superintendent's evaluation, contract or salary;
13. Take action only after hearing the Superintendent's recommendations;
14. Refuse to use his/her official office to obtain personal financial benefit or avoidance of financial detriment or to obtain financial benefit or avoidance of financial detriment for a relative or for any business with which the Board member or a relative is associated. Announce conflicts of interest before Board action is taken;
15. Refuse to bring personal or family problems into Board considerations;
16. Give the staff the respect and consideration due skilled, professional employees;
17. Present personal criticism of MESD operations to the Superintendent, not to MESD staff or to at Board meeting;
18. Respect the right of the public to attend, observe and make public comment pursuant to Board Policy BDDH and Administrative Regulation BDDH-AR -Public Participation in Board Meetings, at Board meetings;
19. Respect the right of the public to be informed about MESD decisions and MESD operations as provided by law;
20. Use social media Web sites judiciously in a manner that does not violate Oregon's Public Meeting Laws;
21. When using social media Web sites, Board members will treat and refer to other Board members, staff, students and the public with respect;
22. Never post confidential information about students, staff or MESD business on any Web sites.

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 334.095](#)

[ORS 334.100](#)

[OAR 581-024-0206](#)

MESD Policy Cross Reference(s):

AC - Non-Discrimination

BBA- Board Powers and Duties

BBAA - Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities

BBB - Board Member Oath of Office

BBFA - Board Member Ethics and Conflict of Interest

BG - Board-Staff Communications

CCB - Line and Staff Relations

GBM - Staff Complaints

GBN/JBA - Sexual Harassment

GBNA/JFCF - Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing

IB - Freedom of Expression

JBA/GBN - Sexual Harassment

JFCF/GBNA- Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing

JO - Education Records**

JOB - Personally Identifiable Information**

KBA - Public Records

KBE - Political Campaigns

KL - Public Complaints

KLD - Public Complaints about MESD Personnel