

Board Member Ethics

A Board member should:

1. Comply with ethics laws for public officials;
2. Understand that the Board sets the standards for the district through Board policy. Board members do not manage the district on a day-to-day basis;
3. Understand that the Board makes decisions as a team. Individual Board members may not commit the Board to any action;
4. Respect the right of other Board members to have opinions and ideas which differ;
5. Recognize that decisions are made by a majority vote and should be supported by all Board members;
6. Make decisions only after the facts are presented and discussed;
7. Understand the chain of command and refer problems or complaints to the proper administrative office;
8. Recognize that the Board must comply with the Public Meetings Law and only has authority to make decisions at official Board meetings;
9. Insist that all Board and district business is ethical and honest;
10. Be open, fair and honest – no hidden agendas;
11. Understand that you will receive information that is confidential and cannot be shared;
12. Recognize that the superintendent is the Board's adviser;
13. Take action only after hearing the superintendent's recommendations;
14. Refuse to bring personal or family problems into Board considerations;
15. Give the staff the respect and consideration due skilled, professional employees;
16. Present personal criteria of school operations to the superintendent, when appropriate, not to district staff;

17. Respect the right of the public to attend and be heard at Board meetings;
18. Respect the right of the public to be informed about school decisions and school operations as allowed by law;
19. Remember that content discussed in executive session is confidential;
20. Use social media websites judiciously in a manner that does not violate Oregon's Public Meetings Laws;
21. When using social media websites, 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 district business on any websites.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 162.015 to -162.035](#)
[ORS 162.405 to -162.425](#)

[ORS 192.610 to -192.710](#)
[ORS 244.040](#)

[ORS Chapter 244](#)
[ORS 332.055](#)

Cross Reference(s):

BBFA - Board Member Conflicts of Interest
GBI - Gifts and Solicitations