

	ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT	NEPN Code: BBF
	POLICIES AND REGULATIONS	

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ETHICS

The School Board recognizes that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officials and employees that extend beyond the responsibilities and duties delegated by law.

The following principles of conduct will serve as a guide for the official conduct of Board members:

1. I will view service on the Aberdeen school board as an opportunity to serve my community, state, and nation because I believe public education is one of the best means to promote the welfare of our people and to preserve self-government.
2. I will work unremittingly to help the people in my community understand the importance of public education and to support willingly the highest level of education we can afford.
3. I will try to make decisions in terms of the best interests of the educational welfare of the children. I will seek to provide an educational opportunity equally open to all children regardless of ability, race, creed, sex, or location of residence.
4. I will confine Board action to policy making, planning, and evaluation and recognize that the Superintendent, not the board, is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the schools.
5. I will refuse to represent special interests or partisan politics or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends or supporters.
6. I will arrive at conclusions only after I have studied, discussed and reviewed matters with members of the professional staff and board members. Once the majority of the board assembled at the meeting has reached a decision, I will support it graciously and respect the opinion of all members.
7. I will recognize that authority rests with the whole board assembled in meeting and that I have no legal status to bind the board outside of a meeting.
8. I will support and protect school personnel in performance of their duties. I will vote only for competent and trained technical and professional personnel who have been properly recommended by the appropriate administrative officer.
9. I will refer all complaints, including my personal criticisms, to the appropriate administrative officer and only after failure of administrative solution will discuss such matters at a regular board meeting. Issues regarding specific personnel will be limited to executive session.
10. I will observe and enforce state laws and regulations pertaining to public education.
11. I will respect the limited intent and scope of executive session and respect privileged communications from executive sessions and other administrative sources.

ADOPTED: May 27, 2003

REVIEWED: July 13, 2009

REVIEWED: November 10, 2014

REVIEWED: July 22, 2019