

**SERIES 100
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

165

BOARD MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

The public schools of our state and country play a vital and important role in providing the basic foundation for democratic living and for sustaining the American way of life. Because school board membership represents such a challenging responsibility, this Code of Conduct is recommended as a guide to school board members as they strive to render effective and efficient service to this school community.

- A Board member should honor the high responsibility which his/her membership demands:
 - By thinking always in terms of “children first.”
 - By understanding that the basic responsibilities for overall management and control of the property and affairs of the district, including the development of policies, belong to the Board while the responsibilities for the day-to-day operation of the district belong to the administration. Together, the Board and administration must work to continually identify the needs, goals and priorities of the district.
 - By accepting the responsibility along with his/her fellow Board members of seeing that the maximum of facilities and resources is provided for the proper functioning of schools.
 - By refusing to “play politics” in either the traditional partisan or in the petty sense.
 - By representing the entire school community, at all times.
 - By accepting the responsibility of becoming well informed concerning the duties of Board members and the proper functions of public schools.
 - By recognizing responsibility as a state official to seek the improvement of education throughout the state.
- A Board member must respect his/her relationship with other members of the Board by recognizing that authority rests only with the Board in official meetings and that the individual members do not have the power to bind the Board or act in the name of the Board outside of a legal Board meeting, except when authorized by the Board and/or state law.
- A Board member should meet his/her responsibilities to his/her community:

