

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SERIES 200**

202.1

POLICY TITLE: CODE OF ETHICS

As a member of the Board of trustees, I will strive to improve public education to that end I will:

1. Attend regularly scheduled Board meetings in so far as possible, having read my packet ensuring that I am informed about the issues to be considered at the meetings;
2. Recognize that the Board must comply with the Open Meeting Law and only has authority to make decisions that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussions and only at official publicly held Board meetings;
3. Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
4. Understand that the Board makes decisions as a team. Individual Board members may not commit the Board to any action unless specifically authorized;
5. Recognize that Board decisions are made by a majority vote and the outcome should be supported by all Board members, regardless of personal vote;
6. Acknowledge that policy decisions are a primary function of the Board and should be made after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings, recognizing that authority to administer the Board's policy rests with the Superintendent;
7. Be open, fair and honest, holding no hidden agendas, and respect the right of the other Board members to have opinions and ideas which differ from mine;
8. Recognize that the Superintendent is the Board's advisor and should be present at all meetings, except when the Board is considering the Superintendent's evaluation, contract or salary or otherwise is excused by the Board;
9. Understand the chain of command and refer problems or complaints to the proper administrative office, while refraining from communications that may create conditions of bias should a concern ever rise to the attention of the Board as a hearing panel;
10. Keep abreast of important developments in educational trends, research and practices by individual study and through participation in programs providing such information;
11. Respect the right of the public to be informed about district decisions and school operations;
12. Understand that I will receive information that is confidential and cannot be shared and that I will not share such confidential information;
13. Give staff the respect and consideration due skilled, professional employees and support the employment of those best qualified to serve s district staff, while insisting on regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;
14. Present personal criticism of district operations to the Superintendent or administrator, not to district staff or to a board meeting;

15. Refuse to use my Board position for personal or family gain or prestige, announcing any conflicts of interest before any discussion is commenced regarding a subject matter of such conflict issue and before any Board action is taken;
16. Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the student attending the public schools.

Reference: IDAHO SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION

Revised: August 12, 2013