

Three Rivers School District

8550 New Hope Rd • PO Box 160 • Murphy, OR 97533

Policy: **BBF**
Adopted: 11/21/05

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BOARD MEMBERS BOARD MEMBER STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The Board subscribes to the code of conduct for Board members as adopted by the Oregon School Boards Association. A Board member should:

- ~~1. Understand that his/her basic function is "*policy-making*" and not "*administrative*."~~
- ~~2. Discourage subcommittees of the Board which tend to nullify the Board's policy-making responsibility.~~
- ~~3. Refuse to "play politics" in either the traditional partisan, or in any petty sense.~~
- ~~4. Respect the rights of school patrons to be heard at official meetings.~~
- ~~5. Recognize that authority rests only with the Board in official meetings.~~
- ~~6. Recognize that he/she has no legal status to act for the Board outside of official meetings.~~
- ~~7. Refuse to participate in "secret" or "star chamber" meetings or other irregular meetings which are not official and which all members do not have the opportunity to attend.~~
- ~~8. Refuse to make commitments on any matter which should properly come before the Board as a whole.~~
- ~~9. Make decisions only after all available facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed.~~
- ~~10. Respect the opinion of others and graciously accept the principle of "*majority rule*" in Board decisions.~~
- ~~11. Recognize the Superintendent should have full administrative authority for properly discharging his/her professional duties within the limit of established Board policy.~~
- ~~12. Act only after hearing the recommendation of the Superintendent in matters of employment or dismissal of school personnel at an official meeting.~~
- ~~13. Recognize that the Superintendent is the educational advisor to the Board and should be present at all meetings of the Board except when his/her contract and salary are under consideration.~~
- ~~14. Refer all complaints, problems, or requests for information to the Superintendent's office for delegation to the proper administrative office. All issues shall be discussed with the Superintendent prior to being placed on the Board agenda.~~
- ~~15. Present personal criticism of any school operation directly to the Superintendent rather than to school personnel.~~
- ~~16. Insist that all school business transactions be on an ethical and above-board basis.~~

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- ~~17. Refuse to use his/her position on a school Board in any way whatsoever for personal gain or for personal prestige.~~
- ~~18. Refuse to bring personal problems into Board considerations.~~
- ~~19. Advocate honest and accurate evaluation of all past personnel when such information is requested by another school district.~~
- ~~20. Give the staff the respect and consideration due skilled professional personnel.~~
1. Comply with the Code of Ethics for public officials provided in state law;
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 advisor;
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 criticism of district operations to the superintendent, when appropriate, not to district staff;
17. Respect the right of the public to attend and observe Board meetings;
18. Respect the right of the public to be informed about district decisions and school operations as allowed by law-;
19. Remember that content discussed in executive session is confidential-;

20. Use social media Web sites judiciously in a manner that does not violate Oregon's Public Meetings 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 district 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 332.055