POLICY TITLE: Code of Conduct: School Trustees

POLICY NO: 140.00

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Minidoka County Joint School District # 331

As a member of the local board of trustees, members will strive to improve student achievement in public education, and to that end they will:

- 1. Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar 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 at official board meetings;
- 3. Make 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 so authorized by official board action;
- 5. Recognize that decisions are made by a majority vote and the outcome should be supported by all board members;
- 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 policy rests with the superintendent or administrator of the charter school;
- 7. Be open, fair and honest no hidden agendas, and respect the right of other board members to have opinions and ideas which differ from mine;
- 8. Recognize that the superintendent or the administrator is the board's advisor and should be present at all meetings, except where the superintendent/administrator is the subject matter, or where the superintendent/administrator's presence is a conflict of interest. Further, the Superintendent/Administrator shall not be present during any Board deliberation regarding a student expulsion hearing and/or when the board deliberates regarding a teacher non-renewal or termination advanced by the administration.;
- 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 hearings 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;
- 13. Give staff the respect and consideration due skilled, professional employees and support the employment of those best qualified to serve as 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. I will announce any conflicts of interest before board action is taken;
- 16. Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending the public schools.
- **1. Goals:** Each Trustee shall assist the Board in pursuit of:
 - a. The development of educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of ability, race, sex, creed, or social standing;
 - b. The development of procedures for the regular and systematic evaluation of programs, staff performance, and Board operations to ensure progress toward educational and fiscal goals;
 - c. The development of effective District policies which provide direction for the operation of the schools and which delegate authority to the Superintendent for their administration;
 - d. The development of systematic communications which ensure that the Board, administration, staff, students, and community are fully informed and that the staff understands the community's aspirations for its schools; and
 - e. The development of sound business practices which ensure that every dollar spent produces maximum benefits.

| LEGAL REFERENCE: Idano Code 33-506 | |
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| ADOPTED: November 15, 2004 | |
| AMENDED/REVISED: Ratified on July 17, 2017; July 17, 202 | 23 |
| Board Member Signatures: | |

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