

## POLICY 3 – BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

The Board adheres to the principles and beliefs outlined in the Strategic Direction Saskatoon Board of Education and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Code of Ethics; *the Education Act* governs the Board.

A code of ethics is a helpful guide to corporate behavior. When each board member commits to high ethical standards, it is easier for the Board to fulfill its obligation and discharge its duties. The following Code of Ethics has been adopted by the Board.

### *Code of Ethics*

#### **Purpose:**

---

The commitment of each board member to high ethical standards is required to ensure that the school board can responsibly fulfill its obligation and discharge its duties.

#### **As a school board member:**

---

1. I will be motivated by an earnest desire to serve my school division to the best of my ability to meet the educational needs of all students.
2. I will recognize that the expenditure of school funds is a public trust, and I will endeavour to see that the funds are expended efficiently in the best interests of students.
3. I will not use my position for personal advantage or to the advantage of any other individual apart from the total interest of the school division, and I will resist outside pressure to so use my position.
4. I will act with integrity, and do everything possible to maintain the dignity of the office of a school board member.
5. I will carry out my duties objectively, and I will consider all information and opinions presented to the board in making my decisions, without bias.
6. I will work with other board members in a spirit of respect, openness, cooperation and proper decorum, in spite of differences of opinion that arise during debate.
7. I will accept that authority rests with the board and that I have no individual authority outside the board, and I will abide by the majority decisions of the board once they are made, but I shall be free to repeat the opinion that I upheld when the decision was made.

8. I will express my contrary opinion respectfully and honestly, and without making disparaging remarks, in or outside board meetings, about other board members or their opinions.
9. I will communicate, and conduct my relationship with staff, the community, other school boards and the media in a manner that focuses on facts.
10. I will not divulge confidential information, which I obtain in my capacity as a board member, and I will not discuss those matters outside the meetings of the board or the board's committees.
11. I will endeavour to participate in trustee development opportunities to enhance my ability to fulfill my obligations as a school board member.
12. I will not conduct myself in a manner, which is intended to be to the detriment of another school board.
13. I will support the value of public education, and will endeavour to participate, and encourage my board to participate, in activities that support or promote public education in Saskatchewan.

Legal Reference: The School Division Administration Regulations, Sections 10, 11, 12, 13  
Date Last Revised: June 18, 2019