

**BOARD OF EDUCATION CODE OF ETHICS**

As representatives of the citizens of the School District, Board of Education members are responsible for serving the best interests of the community and students. The Oath of Office requires Board of Education members to uphold the laws and Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wisconsin. In addition, individual Board of Education members should:

- A. Recognize that a Board of Education member, individually, has no legal authority and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at Board of Education meetings.
- B. Maintain confidentiality of privileged communication.
- C. Abide by majority decision of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions, through ethical and constructive channels.
- D. Encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by fellow Board of Education members and others who seek a hearing before the Board.
- E. Become involved and knowledgeable about local, state and national education concerns and issues.
- F. Encourage the development of educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of ability, race, sex, creed, or social standing.
- G. Attend all meetings and be prepared at those meetings to discuss and act on issues before the Board of Education.
- H. Become familiar with the physical facilities and operation of the school district. This is most effectively accomplished by periodic tours of school buildings during the school day and by attendance at school sponsored activities. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, school visitations, teaching or reading to children, or attending music, co-curricular, or sporting events.
- I. Devote time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a Board member so that effective and creditable service may be rendered.
- J. Work with fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during vigorous debate of points at issue.
- K. Bear in mind under all circumstances that the primary function of the Board is to establish the policies by which the schools are to be administered, but that the administration of the educational program and the conduct of school business shall be left to the employed Superintendent and his/her professional and support staffs.

Adopted: 12/95