**Board Members' Covenants** **GP-10**

In order to build and maintain productive and effective relationships, Board members shall establish a system of communication that builds upon mutual respect and trust.

Accordingly, members will:

1. Exercise honesty in all communication.
2. Demonstrate respect for each other.
3. Focus on issues, not on personalities.
4. Assume and practice trust.
5. Maintain focus on shared goals.
6. Communicate in a timely manner to avoid surprises.
7. Support majority decisions of the Board.
8. Withhold judgment on issues until fully informed.
9. Seek first to understand rather than to be understood.
10. Criticize privately, praise publicly.
11. Maintain confidentiality.
12. Openly share concerns, issues, and interests.
13. Assume a non-defensive posture, taking the initiative to communicate and ask questions for clarification.
14. Share information and knowledge.
15. Give direction as the whole, not as individuals.
16. Protect and promote the integrity and reputation of the district.
17. Support the Superintendent/staff in their roles.

***Adopted: October 24th, 2006***
***Monitoring Method: Board Self Assessment***
***Monitoring Frequency: Annually in May***