Policy Type: Governance Process

**Board Members' Code of Conduct** **GP-9**

The Board commits itself and its members to ethical, businesslike and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as Board members. The Board acting in its legislative capacity shall have the authority and responsibility to interpret and apply these standards of conduct.

Accordingly:

1. Board members will represent the interests of the citizens of the entire school district. This accountability to the whole district supersedes any conflicting loyalty to other advocacy or interest groups or membership on other boards or staffs or the personal interest of any Board member who is also a parent of a student in the district or a relative of an employee of the district.

2. Board members may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the organization except as explicitly set forth in Board policies.
   a. Members' interaction with the Superintendent or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individuals except when explicitly authorized by the Board.
   b. Members' interaction with the public, press or other entities must recognize the same limitation and the inability of any Board member to speak for the Board except to repeat explicitly stated Board decisions.
   c. Members will not publicly express individual negative judgments about Superintendent or staff performance. Any such judgments of Superintendent or staff performance will be made only by the full Board, meeting in executive session as appropriate.
   d. Members will refer to the Superintendent or to his/her designated representative any complaints or concerns about operational issues.

3. Board members shall maintain the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature, especially those discussed in executive session.

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