

## **Code of Ethics for School Board Members**

The National School Boards Association (USA) endorses the following code for local school board members.

As a member of my local School Board I will strive to improve education, and to that end I will:

1. attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
2. recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;
3. render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
4. encourage the free expression of opinion by all board members, and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
5. work with other board members to establish effective board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the superintendent;
6. communicate to other board members and the superintendent expression of public reaction to board policies and school programs;
7. inform myself about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as those sponsored by my state and national school boards association;
8. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff, and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;
9. avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest;
10. take no private action that will compromise the board or administration, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law; and
11. remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending the public schools