

Section B SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

BCA Board Member Code of Ethics

The Board of Directors, having accepted the challenge of service on the Region 8 Board, accepts and subscribes to the following Code of Ethics:

1. To view service on the Cooperative Board as an opportunity to serve the community, state, and nation viewing public education as the means to promote the welfare of the people and to preserve the democratic way of life.
2. To think of children first and base all decisions on how those decisions will affect the child, his/her education and training.
3. To remember that Board members serve as role models for the children and to conduct themselves accordingly.
4. To make no disparaging remarks, in or out of the Board meetings, about other members of the Board or their opinions.
5. To remember at all times that as an individual, the Board member has no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board, and to conduct any relationship with the school staff, the local citizenry, and all media on the basis of this fact.
6. To recognize that the responsibility of the Board member is not to operate the schools but to see that the school is well operated.
7. To seek to provide education for all of the children in the region commensurate with their needs and abilities.
8. To listen to all citizens but to refer all complaints to the proper authorities and to discuss such complaints only at a regular meeting.
9. To accept, but not necessarily to agree with a decision, once it has been made by the Cooperative Board.
10. Not to criticize employees publicly, but to bring such concerns to the Director for investigation and action if necessary.
11. To make decisions only after all facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed.
12. To refuse to make promises as to how to vote on a matter which should properly come before the Board as a whole.

13. Not to discuss the confidential business of the Board in the home, on the street, or on the office, the place for such discussion being the Cooperative Board meeting.
14. To confine Board action to policy making, leaving the administration of the school to the Director.
15. To welcome and encourage cooperation and participation by teachers, administrators and other personnel in developing policies which affect their welfare and that of the children they serve.
16. To endeavor at all times to see that Region 8 has adequate financial support within the capabilities of the sending schools and the state, in order that every child may receive the best possible education.
17. To be aware that the function of a Board member is impaired by non-attendance at meetings.
18. To conduct school business in accordance with state and federal laws/regulations and the Board's policies.
19. To not use the position of a Board member for personal benefit or to benefit any individual or agency apart from the total interest of the school.

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