



## Board Policy 4

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### TRUSTEE CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board commits itself and its members to conduct which meets the highest ethical standards. It is expected that all personal interactions and relationships will be characterized by mutual respect, which acknowledges the diversity, dignity and affirms the worth of each person.

#### Specifically

1. Trustees shall devote time, thought and attention to carry out their responsibilities as detailed in Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee.
2. Trustees shall endeavour to work with fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion which may arise during debate.
3. Trustees shall commit themselves to dignified, ethical, professional and lawful conduct that will inspire public confidence in the abilities and integrity of the Board.
4. Trustees shall consider information received from all sources and base personal decisions upon all available facts in every case; unswayed by partisan bias of any kind, and thereafter, abide by and uphold the final majority decision of the Board.
5. Trustees shall reflect the Board's policies and resolutions when communicating with the public.
6. Trustees shall keep confidential any personal, privileged or confidential information obtained in their capacity as a trustee and not disclose the information except when authorized by law or by the Board to do so.
7. While elected from specific wards, trustees shall represent the best interests of the entire Division.
8. Trustees shall honor their fiduciary responsibility to the Board which supersedes any conflicting loyalty such as that to advocacy or interest groups and membership on other Boards or staffs, or acting as an individual consumer of the Division's services.
9. Trustees shall disclose the nature of any conflict of interest, and abstain and absent themselves from discussion or voting on the matter in question.
10. Trustees shall not use their influence to advance personal, family or friends' interests or the interests of any organization with which the trustee is associated.
11. Trustees shall ensure the use of electronic devices is for the purposes of the meeting and refrain from engaging in private communications while at Board meetings.

12. A trustee shall not advance allegations of misconduct and / or a breach of the code of conduct that are vexatious against another trustee.

13. Consequences for the failure of individual trustees to adhere to the Trustee Code of Conduct are specified in Policy 4 Appendix – Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions.

Legal Reference: Section 33, 34, 51, 52, 53, 64, 67, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96 Education Act