

M.S.A.D. #30 BOARD OF DIRECTOR
ETHICS

BBF-E

Having accepted the challenge of service on the Board of Education, I accept the principles set forth in the following code of ethics to guide me in helping to provide free public education to all the children of the State of Maine.

A. I shall view service on the Board of Education as an opportunity to serve my community, state, and nation and because I believe public education is the best means to promote the welfare of our people and to preserve our democratic way of life.

B. I shall at all times think of children first and base my decision on how they will affect children, their education, and their training.

C. I shall make no disparaging remarks, in or out of the Board meetings, about other members of the Board or their opinions and encourage the free expression of opinion by all board members and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and community.

D. I shall remember at all times that as an individual I have no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board, and that I will conduct my relationship with the school staff, the local citizenry, and all media of communication on the basis of this fact.

E. I shall recognize that my responsibility is not to operate the schools but to see that they are well operated.

F. I shall seek to provide education for all children in the community commensurate with their needs and abilities.

G. I shall listen to all citizens but will refer all complaints to the proper authorities, and will discuss such complaints only at a regular meeting after failure of administrative solution.

H. I shall support a decision graciously once it has been made by the majority of the Board.

I. I shall not criticize employees publicly, but will make such criticism to the Superintendent for his investigation and action, if necessary.

J. I shall make decisions openly after all facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed.

K. I shall refuse to make promises as to how I will vote on a matter that should properly come before the Board as a whole.

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L. I shall not discuss the confidential business of the Board in my home, on the street, or in my office. The place for such discussion being the School Board meeting.

M. I shall confine my Board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, leaving the administration of the schools to the superintendent.

N. I shall welcome and encourage cooperation and participation by teachers, administrators, and other personnel in developing policies that affect their welfare and that of the children they serve.

Q I shall endeavor at all times to see that schools have adequate financial support within the capabilities of the community and state, in order that every child may receive the best possible education.

P. I shall avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest and refrain from using my board position for personal or partisan gain.

-- Q, I shall endeavor to attend every regular and, special Board meeting recognizing that my presence means representation for my town or city. If I find that this is not possible for an extended length of time, I will give consideration to resigning from my position on the Board. I will 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 board association.

R. I shall recognize at all times that the Board of Education of which I am a member is an agent of the state, and as such I will abide by the laws of the state and the regulations formulated by the State Board of Education, which is responsible for educational policies as determined by legislative acts.

APPROVED ON: 4/24/90.