

Policy Type: Governance Process**Board Member Covenants**

In order to build effective relationships between Board members, Board members shall establish a system of communication that builds on mutual expectations and trust.

Accordingly, Board members shall strive to:

1. exercise honesty in all communication
2. demonstrate respect for each other's opinions
3. focus on issues, not personalities
4. assume and practice trust
5. maintain focus on shared goals
6. communicate in a timely manner to avoid surprises
7. openly support majority decisions of the board
8. withhold judgment on issues until fully informed
9. seek first to understand rather than be understood
10. criticize and praise respectfully
11. use executive sessions appropriately and judiciously
12. maintain confidentiality
13. follow the chain of command
14. openly share personal concerns, issues and agendas
15. assume a non-defensive posture, taking the initiative to communicate and ask questions for clarification
16. share information and knowledge
17. give direction as the whole, not as individuals
18. make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of the district and one another

Adopted: August 8, 2001

Revised: ~~May 25, 2011, February 22, 2012, May 9, 2012,~~ November 19, 2014

Monitoring Method: Board self-assessment

Monitoring Frequency: November