

BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

- 1.0 Having accepted the challenge of service on the Board of Education, each Board member acknowledges the principles set forth in the following code of ethics to guide them in helping to provide free public education to the children of Scarborough. Each Board member will:
  - 1.1. View service on the Board as an opportunity to serve this community, state, and nation.
  - 1.2. At all times think of the children first and base decisions on how they will affect children, their education, and training.
  - 1.3. Attempt not to make disparaging remarks about other Board members or their opinions.
  - 1.4. Remember at all times, that as an individual you have no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board, and that you will conduct your relationship with the school staff, the local citizenry, and the media on the basis of this fact.
  - 1.5. Recognize that your responsibility is not to operate the schools but to see that they are well operated. Seek to provide a public education for all children in the community that is commensurate with their needs and abilities.
  - 1.6. Refer all complaints to the proper authorities for resolution through established procedures.
  - 1.7. Not criticize employees publicly, but will make such criticism to the Superintendent for investigation and action.
  - 1.8. Make decisions openly and after the facts bearing on a question have been presented and discussed. Refuse to make promises as to how they will vote.
  - 1.9. Confine Board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal.
  - 1.10. Welcome and encourage cooperation and participation by parents, students, teachers, administrators, and other personnel in developing policies that affect each stakeholder's welfare.
  - 1.11. Endeavor to seek adequate financial support within the capabilities of the community and state.
  - 1.12. Not use their position, as a Board member, to benefit themselves or any individual or agency apart from the total interest of the school unit.
  - 1.13. Endeavor to attend every regular and special Board meeting and assigned committee meetings recognizing that his/her presence means representation for the citizens of his/her town.
  - 1.14. Recognize that the Board is an agent of the State, and as such, will abide by the laws of the State and the regulations formulated by the Maine Department of Education, State Board of Education, and the federal government.

Adopted: October 3, 2002