

School District of Lodi
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ETHICS

Policy No. 165
(A) 12-12-11
(R) 10-14-13

OATH OF OFFICE: I, _____ having been elected to the office of School Board Member swear (or affirm) that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the State of Wisconsin, and will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of said office to the best of my ability. So help me God.

Members of the School District of Lodi Board of Education, as student advocates, pledge to maintain the highest standards of ethical behavior as follows:

LAWS AND REGULATIONS: To honor all national, state, and local law and regulations.

HONESTY, CREDIBILITY, TRUTHFULNESS: to establish and maintain a high level of honesty, credibility, and truthfulness in all matters dealt with by the Board of Education.

MUTUAL RESPECT: To encourage the open minded – exchange of ideas and opinions in a conscientious, courteous manner.

CHARACTER: To model integrity in all matters and to be upright in the performance of their duties and responsibilities as board members.

TRUST: To build relationships, through open, direct communication as part of the educational team and as a leader responsible to the community.

RESPONSIBILITY: To be accountable for guiding the decision making process that impacts on students, staff, school board and the community.

Board of Education members should possess various qualities as representative of citizens of the School District of Lodi. Each member shall endeavor to work to uphold the following ideals:

1. To devote time, thought and study to the duties and responsibilities of a Board member so that effective and creditable service may be rendered.
2. To base personal decisions upon all available facts in each situation; to vote an honest conviction in every case, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind; thereafter to abide by and uphold the final majority decision of the Board.

3. To remember at all times that the individual has no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board, and to conduct relationships with the school staff, local citizenry and all media of communication on the basis of this fact.
4. To resist every temptation and outside pressure to use the position of Board member for personal benefit or to benefit any other individual or agency apart from the total interest of the School District.
5. To recognize that it is an obligation of the Board to understand and evaluate the educational program of the schools as well as to plan for the business of school operation.
6. To bear in mind under all circumstances that the primary function of the Board is to establish the policies by which the schools are to be administered, but that the administration of the educational program and the conduct of school business shall be left to the employed superintendent and his/her professional and support staffs.
7. To welcome and encourage active cooperation by citizens, and community organizations with respect to establishing policy on school operations.