

CODE OF ETHICS

As a means of fulfilling its mission, the board requests each of its members to subscribe to the Code of Ethics adopted by the Washington State School Directors' Association. That code provides that each board member will:

- A. Be a staunch advocate of free public education, striving to help the people of the community understand the importance of public education and the need to support it;
- B. Uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations and court orders pertaining to schools - assuring that desired changes are brought about only through legal and ethical procedures;
- C. Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will strive for public schools which can meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, sex, creed, social standing, or handicapping conditions;
- D. Join with my fellow members on the board, the staff, the community and the students in continuing study of the nature, value and direction of contemporary education in our society in order to facilitate needed change in our schools;
- E. Strive to ensure that people are accurately informed about our schools, and try to interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools;
- F. Recognize that his/her responsibility is not to run the schools but, together with fellow board members, to see that they are well run;
- G. Confine his/her board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, only after the board has given consideration to those who will be affected by them;
- H. Arrive at conclusions only after discussing all aspects of the issues at hand with fellow board members assembled in meeting;
- I. Recognize that authority rests with the whole board assembled in public meetings and make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board;
- J. Refuse to surrender independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends;
- K. Hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools; and
- L. Support and protect staff in the proper performance of their duties.