

Policy Type: Governance Culture

GC-7

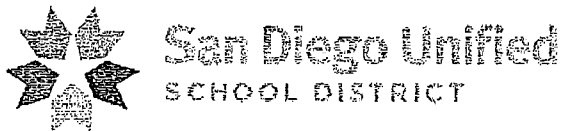
Board Members' Code of Conduct

The board and its members will conduct themselves lawfully with integrity and high ethical standards in order to model the behaviors expected of staff and students and to build public confidence and credibility.

1. Board members will serve the interests of the people of the entire school district. Members recognize this responsibility to the whole to be greater than:
 - a. any loyalty a member may have to any other advocacy or interest groups;
 - b. loyalty based upon membership on other boards or staffs;
 - c. conflicts based upon the personal interest of any board member who is also a parent of a student in the district;
 - d. conflicts based upon being a relative of an employee of the district; or
 - e. conflicts based upon the member's election from or identification with a subsection of the district.

2. Board members will not attempt to exercise individual authority over the operation of the school district.
 - a. Members will not attempt to assume personal responsibility for resolving operational problems or complaints, but may monitor through the superintendent the disposition of complaints
 - b. Members will not personally direct any part of the operational organization.

3. To build trust among members and to ensure an environment conducive to effective governance, members will:
 - a. focus on issues rather than personalities
 - b. respect decisions of the full board
 - c. exercise honesty in all written and interpersonal interaction, never intentionally misleading or misinforming each other
 - d. criticize tactfully, praise publicly



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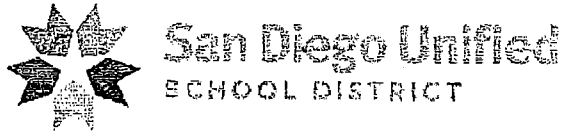
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- e. make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of the district and one another
 - f. never embarrass each other or the district
4. Members will exercise personal discipline in the performance of their duties, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as board members.
 5. Members shall maintain confidentiality appropriate to sensitive issues and information that otherwise may tend to compromise the integrity or legal standing of the board, especially those matters discussed in closed session.

Monitoring Method: ***Board self-assessment***
Monitoring Frequency: ***Annually in January***

San Diego Unified School District Board of Education



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Board Member Conflict of Interest

Board members are expected to avoid conflicts of interest as defined by law involving all matters considered by the board. A conflict of interest exists when a member is confronted with an issue in which the member has a personal or financial interest or an issue or circumstance that could render the member unable to devote complete loyalty and singleness of purpose to the public interest.

1. If a board member has a personal or financial interest in any matter being considered by the board, the member shall disclose such interest to the board, shall not vote on the matter and shall not attempt to influence the decisions of other board members.
2. The board shall not enter into any contract with any of its members or with a firm in which a member has a financial interest.
3. A board member is expected to avoid conflict of interest in the exercise of the member's fiduciary responsibility. Accordingly, a board member may not:
 - a. disclose or use confidential information acquired during the performance of official duties as a means to further the board member's own personal financial interests or the interests of a member of the board member's immediate family;
 - b. accept a gift of substantial value or economic benefit which would tend to improperly influence a reasonable person, or which the board member knows or should know is primarily for the purpose of a reward for official action;
 - c. engage in a substantial financial transaction for private business purposes with a person whom the board member directly or indirectly supervises;
 - d. perform an official act which directly confers an economic benefit on a business in which the board member has a substantial financial interest or is engaged as a counsel, consultant, representative or agent.

Monitoring Method: *Board self-assessment*

Monitoring Frequency: *Annually in January*

San Diego Unified School District Board of Education