



**Poudre School District
Board of Education Policies**

Policy Type: **Governance Process**
Policy No.: **GP 3.5**
Policy Title: **Board Members' Code of Conduct**
Policy Date: Adopted September 11, 2006
Revised April 8, 2008
Revised March 26, 2013

The Board commits itself and its members to ethical, businesslike, and lawful conduct, including members' proper use of authority and appropriate decorum while acting as directors.

1. Members must have loyalty to the citizens, unconflicted by loyalties to staff, other organizations, and any self-interest.
2. Members must avoid conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibilities.
 - a. There will be no self-dealing by a Board member, and no business by a Board member with the District except as authorized under Colorado's Standards of Conduct statute after full disclosure of the Board member's interest. Members will annually disclose their involvements with individuals, other organizations and vendors, and any other associations, that might be reasonably seen as representing a conflict of interest.
 - b. When the Board is to decide on an issue about which a member has an unavoidable conflict of interest, that member shall disclose such conflict and absent himself or herself without comment not only from the vote but from the deliberation.
 - c. Board members will not use their Board position to obtain employment in the District for themselves, family members, or close associates. A Board member who applies for employment in the District must first resign from the Board.
 - d. A District employee who becomes a candidate for the Board shall automatically be deemed to be on an extended leave of absence during his or her candidacy. A District employee candidate who successfully becomes a Board member shall be deemed to have automatically and voluntarily resigned as a District employee, effective upon taking the oath of office as a Board member.

GP 3.5 Board Members' Code of Conduct (Continued)

3. Board members may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the District or any of its parts or staff.
 - a. Members' interaction with the Superintendent or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individual Board members except when explicitly authorized by the Board.
 - b. Members' interactions with the public, the press, or other entities must recognize the same limitation and the inability of any Board member to speak for the Board except to repeat explicitly stated Board decisions.
 - c. Except for participation in Board deliberation about whether the Superintendent has achieved any reasonable interpretation of Board policy and except in connection with personnel actions presented for Board action, members will not express individual judgments of performance of staff, including the Superintendent.
4. Members will respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
5. Members will be properly prepared for Board deliberation.
6. Members will support the legitimacy and authority of the final determination of the Board on any matter, irrespective of the member's personal position on the issue.