

**BOARD MEMBER COVENANTS**

In order to build efficient and effective relationships, Board members shall establish a system of communication that builds on mutual respect and trust.

**ACCORDINGLY, MEMBERS WILL:**

1. exercise honesty in all written and interpersonal interaction
2. demonstrate respect for the opinions of others
3. focus on issues rather than personalities
4. maintain focus on common goals
5. communicate in a timely manner to avoid surprises
6. respect decisions of the full board\
7. withhold judgment on issues until fully informed
8. seek first to understand rather than be understood
9. criticize privately, praise publicly
10. use executive sessions appropriately and judiciously
11. maintain appropriate confidentiality
12. undertake honest expression of feelings during discussions to find common ground
13. take the initiative to communicate and ask questions for clarification
14. share information and knowledge
15. give direction as the whole, not as individuals
16. make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of the district and one another
17. be aware of appropriate body language

**MEMBERS WILL NOT**

1. embarrass each other or the district
2. intentionally mislead or misinform each other
3. maintain individual agendas inconsistent with Board Ends policies
4. assume responsibility for resolving operational problems or complaints

ADOPTED: 2000

**Monitoring Method:** *Board self-assessment*  
**Monitoring Frequency:** *Annually in December and May*