

Appendix 4.4 Board Legal, Compliance and Ethics Policies

SAMPLE BOARD ETHICS POLICY

The Board of Trustees recognizes its role as overseers of public education commit to the following code of ethics. Board members will:

- Recognize that the Board's function is the provision of education and strive to maintain a balance between fiscal responsibility and a accountability for results,
- Uphold applicable federal and state laws and local ordinances,
- Uphold and promote policies of the Board,
- Preserve and protect the civil and human rights of all members of the school community,
- Respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged, including all non-public session discussions,
- Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest,
- Respect and encourage the expression of opinion by all Board members; hear fairly individual opinions and work in a spirit of harmony despite differences.
- Remember that each members is one of a team; strive for teamwork and respect five aspects of this role:
 1. That Board decisions can only be transacted at official Board meetings,
 2. That no member of the Board has individual authority and, therefore, cannot make unauthorized commitments on behalf of the Illinois Prep Board of Directors,
 3. That each Board member should freely ask questions and give opinions and know that this involvement is valued and important,
 4. That once the majority of the Board makes a decision in good faith, it is the decision of the Board, and
 5. That Board members should support cohesiveness in the school's culture and not speak against any final decision that was reached in good faith.