



# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

Board of Education Policy 2-80

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## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **BOARD MEMBER ETHICS**

Each Board member, before taking his or her seat on the Board, shall take the oath of office as prescribed in Section 10-16.5 of the Illinois School Code.

In addition, the Board of Education adopts the Illinois Association of School Boards' "Code of Conduct for Members of School Boards" and directs the Superintendent to display a copy of the Code in the Board Room.

Each member of the New Trier Township High School District 203 Board ascribes to the following code of ethics:

1. I shall represent all District constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups.
2. I shall avoid any conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety which could result from my position, and shall not use my Board membership for personal gain or publicity.
3. I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a Board meeting.
4. I shall take no private action that might compromise the Board or administration and shall respect the confidentiality of privileged information.
5. I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels.
6. I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board.
7. I shall be involved and knowledgeable about local educational concerns as well as State and national issues.

In addition, I shall encourage my Board to pursue the following goals:

1. The development of educational programs which meet the individual needs of every student, regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, economic status, status of being homeless, immigration status, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, and other characteristics protected by law;
2. The development of procedures for the regular and systematic evaluation of programs, staff performance and Board operations to ensure progress toward educational and fiscal goals;
3. The development of effective Board policies which provide direction for the operation of the School District's programs and facilities and delegate authority to the Superintendent for their administration;
4. The development of systematic communications which ensure that the Board, administration, staff, students and community are fully informed and that the staff understands the community's aspirations for its School District; and
5. The development of fiscally sound business practices which ensure that all expenditures are consistent with New Trier's academic goals, philosophy and motto, and recognizing the community's expectation of financial efficiency and stewardship.

Legal Reference: ILCS 5/10-16

**Adopted: 6/23/94**

**Revised: 8/24/98**

**Revised: 11/20/2006**

**Revised: 5/20/2019**