



# Board Member Code of Ethics Policy

Date Created: 02/10/2020

Approved By: TRM Board of Directors

Date Approved: 01/21/2020

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## Board Member Code of Ethics

As members of the School Board we recognize the integrity of our predecessors and associates and appreciate the merit of their work. We consider ourselves trustees of public education and do the best to protect, conserve and advance its progress. We are motivated by the desire to serve the pupils of our district and by the desire to provide the best educational opportunities possible for the entire district.

As a member of the School Board I will inform myself of the proper duties and functions of a School Board member. I will appraise both the present and future educational needs of the School District and attempt to obtain adequate financial support of the school program. I will interpret the needs and attitudes of the community and do my best to translate these into the educational program of the School District. I will participate in activities that foster professional growth such as meetings, conferences, and workshops pertaining to school activities and objectives of the board.

As members of the School Board we meet the legal responsibility that is ours, functioning as a policy-forming body – not as administrative officers. Our responsibility is to have the school run properly, not to run it ourselves.

The individual members of the School Board hold an office of shared power and responsibility and recognize that school business may be legally transacted only in an open meeting of the School Board. Individual Board members exercise authority over District affairs only as they vote to take action at a legal Board meeting.

As a Board member I recognize that to promise in advance of a meeting how I will vote on any proposition is to close my mind and agree not to think through points of view, which may be presented at the meeting. Each board member is committed to reaching and supporting group decisions, which represent the best judgments of the Board as a whole. The School Board will make decisions in Board meetings only after all sides of debatable questions have been represented.

As a member of the School Board I will listen, respect the rights of others to have and express opinions, and make no disparaging remarks, in or out of meetings, about other members of the Board, or their opinions. Above all I will live the TRM core values of Integrity, Stewardship, Compassion, and Montessori Focus.

New Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Chair Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_