



Policy 6

Trustee Code Of Ethics

The Northland Board supports Trustee adherence to a Trustee Code of Ethics.

1. Trustee Responsibility to the Office of Trustee

A Trustee should honour the high responsibility which this membership demands by:

- 1.1 Thinking always in terms of the best interest of students first.
- 1.2 Understanding that the basic function of the Northland Board is "policy making", and not "administrating", and by accepting the responsibility of learning to discriminate intelligently between these two functions.
- 1.3 Accepting the responsibility along with fellow Trustees for seeing that adequate facilities and resources are provided for the proper functioning of the schools.
- 1.4 Refusing to "play politics" in either the traditional partisan or in any petty sense.
- 1.5 Representing the entire school division at all times.
- 1.6 Accepting the responsibility of becoming well-informed concerning the duties of a Trustee and the proper functions of schools.
- 1.7 Recognizing responsibility as a provincial as well as a local official to seek the improvement of education not only in the Division but throughout the province.
- 1.8 Encouraging administrative officers and LSBC members to participate at regular and special meeting of the Northland Board and permitting them to participate in discussions as appropriate.
- 1.9 Having the administrative officers present at regular and special meetings of the Northland Board and permitting them to participate in discussion.
- 1.10 Referring complaints to the proper administrative officers and discussing them at the regular meeting if an administrative solution is not achieved.
- 1.11 Striving to provide adequate safeguards around administrative officers and other staff members so that they can discharge their



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administrative and educational functions on a thoroughly professional and business-like basis.

2. Trustee Responsibility to the Communities within Northland School Division

The Trustee should meet their responsibility to the community by:

- 2.1 Attempting to appraise fairly both the present and the future educational needs of the community.
- 2.2 Regarding it as a major responsibility of the Northland Board to work with the Local School Board Committee to interpret the aims and the activities of the schools to the community.
- 2.3 Insisting that all school business transactions be open, ethical and on an above-board basis.
- 2.4 Vigorously seeking adequate financial support for the schools.
- 2.5 Refusing to use their position on the Northland Board for personal gain.

3. Trustee Relationship With Other Board Members

A Trustee should respect their relationship with the other members of the Northland Board by:

- 3.1 Recognizing that authority rests only with the Northland Board in official meetings and that the individual Trustee has no legal status to bind the Northland Board outside of such meetings.
- 3.2 Recognizing the integrity of their predecessors and associates and the merits of their work.
- 3.3 Refusing to make promises as to how they will vote on any matter that should properly come before the Northland Board as a whole.
- 3.4 Making decisions only after relevant facts bearing on the subject are made known.

4. Trustee Relationship with Administrative Officers and Staff

Trustees should maintain effective relationships with the administrative officers of the Division and their respective staffs by:



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- 4.1 Striving to procure, when the vacancies exist, the best professional leaders available for administrative posts.
- 4.2 Giving the administrative officers full administrative authority for properly discharging their professional duties and holding them responsible for results.
- 4.3 Refusing to act on matters relating to the employment, discipline or dismissal of staff without reference to the appropriate administrative officers.
- 4.4 Respecting the confidentiality of privileged Board business.

Legal Reference: Section 80, 82, School Act – RSA 2000