

Mounds View Public Schools Board Governance Policy

BG-0402 School Board Member Covenants

In order to build and maintain productive and effective relationships, School Board members will maintain a system of communication and interaction that builds upon 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 on personalities.
4. maintain focus on common goals.
5. communicate in a timely manner to avoid surprises.
6. respect decisions of the full School Board.
7. withhold judgment on issues until fully informed.
8. seek first to understand rather than to be understood.
9. take the initiative to understand, communicate and ask questions for clarification.
10. use executive sessions appropriately and judiciously.
11. maintain appropriate confidentiality.
12. openly share personal concerns.
13. share information and knowledge.
14. give direction as the whole, not as individuals.
15. make every reasonable effort to protect the integrity and promote the positive image of Mounds View Public Schools and one another.

Members will not:

1. embarrass each other or Mounds View Public Schools.
2. intentionally mislead or misinform each other.
3. maintain hidden agendas.
4. assume responsibility for resolving operational problems or complaints.

With regards to email communications:

- Constituent and staff emails to Board members are to be copied to the Superintendent and Board Chair, unless the response is clearly a simple clarification.
- The Superintendent will forward email and issue to appropriate administrator and may choose to either copy to the full Board or the Board Chair and Vice Chair.
- Board members do not “Reply to All” to any email.
- Board members may reply to Superintendent, i.e. “Thanks.”

Monitoring Method: School Board self-assessment

Monitoring Frequency: Semi-annual in May and December

Rationale:

School Board members need to operate within the common and sensible boundaries.

Reference:

Notes:

Adopted: June 25, 2002

Revised: December 12, 2017

Reviewed: April 13, 2021