

# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## JOINT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES & SUPERINTENDENT

The Board of Education recognizes that sound standards of conduct serve to increase the effectiveness of school board members and the Superintendent as educational leaders in the community. Actions based on a code of conduct promote public confidence and the attainment of district goals. Trustees of the Board of Education and the Superintendent shall represent the public interest in education by adhering to the commitments outlined below.

- **STRIVE** for high quality education for every student and make the well-being of students the fundamental principle in all decisions and actions.
  - **HONOR** all national, state, and local laws and regulations pertaining to education and public agencies, as well as those policies and regulations contained in the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District Policy Manual.
  - **REPRESENT** the entire community without fear or favor, while not using these positions for personal gain or publicity and accepting all responsibilities as a means of unselfish service.
  - **UPHOLD** the principles of due process and individual dignity, and protect the civil and human rights of all.
  - **ADHERE** to the principle that the Board shall confine its role to policymaking, planning, and appraisal while the Superintendent shall implement the board's policies.
  - **ACT** as part of an educational team with mutual respect, civility, and regard for each other's respective responsibilities and duties, recognizing that the strength of a school board is in acting as a board, not as individuals; and that the strength of the Superintendent is in being the educational leader of the school district.
  - **PRACTICE** and **PROMOTE** ethical behavior in the boardroom and in the classroom.
  - **MAINTAIN** high standards and the effectiveness of education through research and continuing professional development.
- CONSIDER** and **DECIDE** all issues fairly and without bias.
- **INSTILL** respect for community, state, and nation.
  - **INSPIRE** and **NURTURE** the highest bonds of ethics and integrity.
  - **RESPECT** the confidentiality of privileged information.
  - **ABIDE** by majority decisions of the Board while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels. **TAKE** no private action that might compromise the Board or administration.