

Board of Trustees

BP 2715 CODE OF ETHICS/STANDARDS OF PRACTICE**References:**

Title 5 Section 51016;
ACCJC Accreditation Standard 4

The governing board functions effectively as a collective entity to promote the institution's values and mission and fulfill its fiduciary responsibilities. The governing board demonstrates an ability to self-govern in adherence to its bylaws and expectations for best practices in board governance.

The Board maintains high standards of ethical conduct for its members. Members of the Board are responsible to:

- Act only in the best interests of the entire community.
- Ensure public input into Board deliberations, adhering to the law and spirit of the open meeting laws and regulations.
- Prevent conflicts of interest and the perception of conflicts of interest.
- Exercise authority only as a Board.
- Use appropriate channels of communication.
- Respect others and act with civility.
- Be informed about the District, educational issues, and responsibilities of trusteeship.
- Devote adequate time to Board work.
- Maintain confidentiality of closed sessions.

The Board President and Superintendent/President are authorized to consult with legal counsel when they become aware of or are informed about actual or perceived violations of pertinent laws and regulations, including but not limited to conflict of interest, open and public meetings, confidentiality of closed session information, and use of public resources. Violations of law may be referred to the appropriate governing agency, District Attorney, or Attorney General as provided for in law.

Violations of this policy (BP 2715 Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice) will be addressed by the President of the Board, who will first discuss the violation with the Board member to reach a resolution. If resolution is not achieved and further action is deemed necessary, the Board President may appoint an ad hoc committee composed of two Board members to examine the matter and recommend further courses of action to the Board. Sanctions will be determined by the Board officers (or committee) and may include a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to censure the Board member. If the President of the Board of Trustees is perceived to have violated the code, the Vice President of the Board of Trustees is authorized to pursue resolution.

Date Adopted: May 18, 2010

Date Reviewed/Revised: July 18, 2017, November 13, 2018; November 9, 2021

Date Revised: November 19, 2024