

CODE OF CONDUCT – SCHOOL TRUSTEE

The position of school trustee is one of responsibility, and trust, and individuals holding that position must conduct themselves accordingly. Therefore, the school trustees of Beautiful Plains School Division:

- Will abide by the provisions of all federal, provincial and local legislation, including but not limited to human rights statutes, The Public Schools Act, and school division by-laws and policies.
- Recognize that the school board's authority rests with the corporate body, not with individual trustees, and therefore will speak or act on behalf of the school board only if they have been authorized to do so.
- Understand that their position may make them privy to confidential information about individuals (including students or staff), financial, legal and other sensitive matters, and will keep any such information confidential. (See Policies B.E.A. and B.E.F)
- Strive to attend all regular and special meetings of the board and those committees on which they serve, and if unable to do so, advise the appropriate individuals of their pending absence.
- Review meeting agendas and other relevant information prior to board and committee meetings, and arrive at such meetings informed and prepared to contribute to the open and honest discussion about matters before the board or committee.
- Listen respectfully and with an open mind to the full range of opinions on each matter before them, and make their decisions based on the merits of these varying opinions.
- Treat board colleagues, divisional and school staff, students and community members in a respectful and courteous manner, and refrain from using abusive or denigrating language in any dealings with them.
- Will adhere to the provisions of the Internet / Email / Technology – Guidelines for Acceptable Use by Staff as developed by the Division.

If a school board determines by 2/3 vote that a trustee has breached the code of conduct that applies to the trustee, the board may impose one or more of the following sanctions:

1. Censuring the trustee
2. Barring the trustee from attending all or part of a meeting of the school board or a committee of the school board.
3. Suspending the trustee from the school board, including suspending all the trustee's rights, duties and privileges as a member of the school board, for up to three months.

PSA 35

Approved: October 23, 2012
Reviewed: May 2017