



# Vermont Code of Ethics for School Board Members

As a member of my local school board, I will remember that my primary concerns must be the educational welfare of the students in my district and excellent return on investment for taxpayers. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with the following commitments. I will:

## **Act within the scope of my official role:**

- Recognize that a board member's responsibility is to see that schools are well run, but not to run them
- Act only as a member of the board and not assume any individual authority when the board is not in session, unless otherwise directed by the board
- Give no directives, as an individual board member, to any school administrator or employee, publicly or privately
- Avoid making commitments that may compromise the decision-making ability of the board or administrators

## **Uphold the highest ethical standards:**

- Not receive anything of value, by contract or otherwise, from the school district or supervisory union unless it is received:
  - as a result of a contract accepted after a public bid
  - in public recognition of service or achievement
  - as a board stipend reimbursement or expense allowed by law for official duties performed as a member of such board;
- Not solicit or receive directly or indirectly any gift or compensation in return for making a recommendation or casting a vote;
- Agree to recuse and remove myself from board deliberation and votes when necessary to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest;
- Not agree to the hiring of a superintendent, principal, or teacher already under contract with another school district unless assurance is first secured from the proper authority that the person can be released from his or her contract.

## **Respect my peers, my constituents, and confidentiality considerations:**

- Voice opinions respectfully and treat with respect other board members, administrators, school staff, and members of the public;
- Maintain confidentiality of information and discussion conducted in executive session and uphold applicable laws with respect to the confidentiality of student and employee information;
- Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible.

***I agree to abide by the principles outlined in this Code of Ethics and will do everything in my power to work as a productive member of the leadership team.***



**MARCH 2020 - GMUSD**

**Signatures on reverse side.**



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Rick Alexander

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Date

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Deborah Brown

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Joseph Fromberger

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Jeff Hance

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Date

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Kate Lamphere

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Date

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Douglas McBride

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Date

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Lois Perlah

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Date

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Michael Studin

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Jeanie Wade

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Date

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Wayne Wheelock

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Date