

## **Southwestern Oregon Community College**

**BP: 2060**

### **BOARD MEMBERS' STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

The Board of Education expects ethical conduct of its members. This includes proper use of authority, appropriate decorum, and courteous individual behavior when acting as a member of the Board. This policy applies to behavior by members of the Board at all college-sponsored activities.

1. Individual Board members shall maintain non-conflicting loyalty to the interests of the College district (ownership). This accountability supersedes any conflicting loyalty to any special interest groups.
2. Individual Board members must avoid any conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
  - a. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Board member and the organization except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to information.
  - b. Individual Board members must not use their positions to obtain employment at the College for themselves, family members, or close associates.
  - c. Board members must comply with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission laws for public officials (potential and actual conflicts of interest).
3. Board members shall exercise authority over the College, the College President, and/or personnel only as explicitly set forth in Board policies.
4. Board members are elected from a diverse population to at-large positions to represent the College district as a whole.
5. Individual Board members, when communicating with the public, shall keep in mind the vision, mission and values of the College.
6. Board members shall not represent their individual opinions as the consensus of the entire Board.
7. During a public Board meeting, should an individual board member's behavior violate the expected model of appropriate decorum, the Board Chair reserves the right to immediately adjourn the Board meeting.
8. Board members shall refrain from using any personal electronic devices during a meeting of the Board of Education. Muting of, or turning off, a cellular phone is required during all meetings. If a member of the Board **must** respond to a phone message, they should do so in a quiet manner by leaving the meeting in order to respond and not interrupt or distract others. This directive also applies to personal laptops or computers.
9. Board members shall maintain confidentiality regarding Executive Session deliberations.

END OF POLICY

**Legal Reference(s):**

ORS 162.015 - 162.035  
ORS 162.405 - 162.425  
ORS 174.100  
ORS 192.630  
ORS 244.010 - 244.130  
ORS 339.351  
ORS 341.283

**Board Policies:**

2014  
2020  
7165