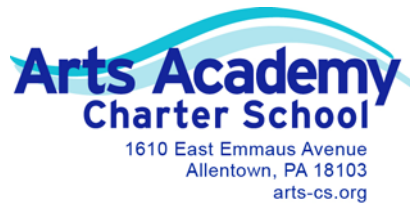


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Board Policy 1.3.3

Board Member Codes of Ethics and Conduct

Code of Ethics

As a member of my local Board of Education, I recognize:

- a. That I have been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the educational development of the students who attend Arts Academy Charter School by safeguarding the financial and organizational well-being of the school.
- b. That the public expects my first and greatest concern to be in the best interest of each and every one of the students without distinction as to who they are or what their background may be.
- c. That the future welfare of this community, of this state, and of the nation depends in the largest measure upon the quality of education we provide in public charter schools to fit the needs of every learner.
- d. That legally, the authority of the Board is derived from the Pennsylvania General Assembly which ultimately controls the organization and operation of the school.
- e. That both I and the school are bound by many laws and regulations, which I will strive to uphold.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it shall be my constant endeavor:

- a. To devote time, thought, and study to the duties and responsibilities of a School Board member so that I may render effective and creditable service.
- b. To work with my fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during vigorous debate of points at issue.
- c. To base my personal decision upon all available facts in each situation; to vote my honest conviction in every case, unswayed by partisan or personal bias of any kind; thereafter to abide by and uphold the final majority decision of the Board.
- d. To remember at all times that as an individual I have no individual legal authority outside the meetings of the Board, and to conduct my relationships with the school staff, the local

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citizenry, and all media of communication on the basis of this fact.

- e. To resist outside pressure to use my position as a Board member to benefit either myself or any other individual or agency apart from the total interest of the school.
- f. To recognize that it is as important for the Board to understand and evaluate the educational program of the schools as it is to plan for the business of school operation.
- g. To bear in mind under all circumstances that the primary function of the Board is to establish the policies by which the schools are to be administered, but that the administration of the educational program and the conducting of school business shall be left to the Executive Director.
- h. To welcome and encourage active cooperation by citizens, organizations, and the media of communication in the school with respect to establishing policy on current school operation and proposed future developments.
- i. Finally, to strive step by step toward ideal conditions for most effective School Board service to my community, in a spirit of teamwork and devotion to public education as the greatest instrument for the preservation and perpetuation of our respective democracy.

Board Member Code of Conduct

As members of the Board, we commit ourselves collectively and individually to the following:

- a. To abide by the Code of Ethics for Board members.
- b. To strive sincerely to build better relationships with one another and with the Executive Director and other members of the school administration.
- c. To vote our individual convictions and do what we can to destroy factionalism on the Board.
- d. To refuse to become involved with micromanagement or management of the school in any way.
- e. To emphasize planning, policy making, and public relations rather than becoming involved in the management of the school.
- f. To prepare ourselves carefully before each meeting so that when we have the floor, we can make comments that are concise, organized and clear.
- g. To listen carefully and with courtesy when other people have the floor and are speaking during Board meetings.
- h. To set clear goals with the Executive Director.
- i. To support the Executive Director and help him/her be as effectual as possible as long as s/he

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is the Executive Director.

- j. To establish goals for our school and to make sure the community is aware of these goals.
- k. Board members shall agree to speak with colleagues who violate any portion of the Code of Conduct. If, after their talk, consensus is not reached, the issue will be brought to the entire Board for review.