

B.3.3 (Policy) Board of Trustees Ethics

Responsible Department: Office of the Chancellor, Legal Services

Board Adoption: 8-18-09

Last Board Action: 10-27-15

Last Amended: 11-18-16

As a Board member, I will strive toward the ideal of effective board service in a spirit of teamwork and commitment to the ideal that community college education is the greatest instrument for the preservation and the perpetuation of our representative democracy and will strive to:

1. Work with fellow Board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that arise during vigorous debates.
2. Bring about desired changes through legal and ethical procedures, upholding and enforcing all applicable statutes, regulations, and court decisions pertaining to community colleges.
3. Work with other Board members to establish effective policies and practices prohibiting unlawful discrimination, including conduct that constitutes sexual harassment.
4. Communicate with the public and provide access points for constituent voices to be heard, while maintaining the integrity of the Board's governance guidelines.
5. Base my personal decisions on all available facts in a situation; vote my honest conviction in every case, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind; and abide by the final decision of the Board.
6. Delegate authority to the Chancellor as the College District's chief executive officer and confine Board and Trustees' action to policy determination, planning, evaluation of the Chancellor, and maintaining the fiscal stability of the College District.
7. Recognize that it is as important for the Board to understand and plan for the educational mission of the community college as it is to understand and plan for the College District's business operations.
8. Devote time, thought, and study to the duties and responsibilities of a community college Trustee so that I may render more effective and credible service.
9. Remember at all times that, as an individual, I have no legal authority outside the meetings of the Board.
10. Resist every temptation and outside pressure to use my position as a community college Trustee to benefit either myself or any other individual or agency at the expense of the total interest of the College District.
11. Respect the influence of my authority as a Trustee and to communicate appropriately with all internal and external constituents.
12. Avoid any real or perceived conflict of interest.

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13. Abstain from voting in matters involving a business entity in which I have substantial interest.
14. Disclose any conflicts with respect to a vendor if the vendor enters into a contract with the Alamo Colleges.
15. Not to intentionally or knowingly offer, confer, agree to confer on another, solicit, accept, or agree to accept any contribution in exchange for favorable treatment in the course of exercising my official duties.
16. Actively participate in appropriate training at the state and national level, including the Alamo Colleges annual ethics training.
17. Exercise its stewardship responsibilities to the public through its administrators and employees.

Legal Reference - TACC Policy Reference Manual

BBF(LEGAL) – Board Members: Ethics

BBFA(LEGAL) - Ethics: Conflict of Interest Disclosures

BBFA(EXHIBIT) - Ethics: Conflict of Interest Disclosures

BBFB(LEGAL) - Ethics: Prohibited Practices