



Policy No. 104

CODE TRUSTEE OF CONDUCT

POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with the *School Act* the rights, powers, duties, and liabilities of the District are vested solely in the corporate Board of Education. Individual Trustees or committees do not hold independent authority; rather Trustees exercise their governance responsibilities as a public trust, only when the Board is officially in session and acting as a collective body.

To ensure the Board functions as an effective and trusted governing body Trustees shall uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct, integrity and respect. This commitment requires the responsible use of authority, maintained decorum in all interactions, and the fair, professional treatment of students, parents, staff, and the broader community. By modeling these values, Trustees foster a culture of mutual trust and ensure effective governance across the District.

The ***Code of Trustee Conduct*** embodies the Board's commitment to its ethical obligations. It establishes the principles and standards of behaviour required of all Trustees to ensure alignment with the Board's mission, vision, and core values outlined in ***Policy No. 102 – Board of Education's Vision/Mission/Purpose/Expectations***.

GUIDING LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS

- *School Act*, Part 6

REGULATION

Trustees will:

1. Observe the bylaws, policies and regulations of the Stikine Board of Education; the School Act, Regulations and Orders; and other relevant statutes and legislation.
2. Devote the time, thought and ongoing professional learning necessary to provide effective, informed and credible service as an advocate for students and public education.
3. Prioritize student achievement, equity, and well-being in all decision-making in order to foster inclusive learning environments that recognize the unique potential of every student and ensure that the diverse needs of all learners are met across the District and on whose traditional territories we operate.
4. Recognize that the management of public funds is a fiduciary duty and a matter of public trust and will commit to ensuring that all expenditures are managed efficiently and

effectively and that resources are allocated to prioritize the educational outcomes and best interest of students.

5. Be cognizant of legislation and policy concerning conflict of interest and will abstain from using their role for personal advantage or for the advantage of friends, supporters or businesses. Should a Trustee become aware that they are in a position that creates a conflict of interest (direct, indirect; statutory or common law), they will:
 - a. Declare the nature and extent of the conflict at a meeting of the Board; and
 - b. Abstain from deliberating or voting on the issue giving rise to the conflict.
6. Recognize at all times that they hold no individual legal authority outside of a duly constituted meeting of the Board. In all interactions with staff, the public, and the media, Trustees will clearly distinguish between their personal opinions and the collective decisions of the Board, ensuring they do not inadvertently act or speak on behalf of the Board without explicit authorization.
7. Uphold the integrity of the democratic process by respecting and abiding by majority decisions of the Board, and will publicly honor these decisions and refrain from actions or comments that would undermine the Board's collective authority.
8. Preserve the confidentiality of information discussed at closed Board meetings and shall not release privileged information in any format to the public (even after retiring from the Board) until the Board has done so in an official capacity.
9. Represent the Board in all Board-related matters with proper decorum and respect for others at all times.
10. Work with my fellow Trustees in a spirit of harmony and cooperation and be respectful of differences of opinion in order to facilitate a full and open discussion of any Board business at hand.
11. Endeavor to attend all Board, committee and external agency meetings to which I am appointed. As a courtesy, they I will notify the Board Office Administration or Chair of any foreseen absences.
12. Recognize the role of the Superintendent as Chief Executive Officer responsible for the day-to-day administration of the school district, as per Board ***Policy 108 – Role of the Superintendent***, and will not in any way interfere with, or undermine their authority.
13. Refer members of the public to the appropriate Principal or the Superintendent, as appropriate, when they raise concerns regarding the school system.

Developed: 2023.12.07
Updated: 2026.04.17