

Sometimes the statements imply, or the readers (listeners) infer, that the opinions expressed or statements made are the official positions of the Board. The misunderstandings that can result from these incidents can embarrass both the member and the Board. Therefore, Board members should, when writing or speaking on school matters to the media, legislators, and other officials, make it clear that their views do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board or of their colleagues on the Board.

A. This policy shall apply to all statements and/or writings by individual Board members not explicitly sanctioned by a majority of its members, except as follows:

1. correspondence, such as legislative proposals, when the Board member has received official guidance from the Board on the matters discussed in the letter
2. routine, not for publication, correspondence of the School Leader and other Board employees
3. routine "thank you" letters of the Board
4. statements by Board members on nonschool matters (providing the statements do not identify the author as a member of the Board)
5. personal statements not intended for publication

0144 **Operations**

0144.1 **Compensation**

Board members shall not receive annual compensation for service as a Board Member.

0144.11 **Reimbursement of Expenses**

By resolution of the Board, expenses of a Board member shall be reimbursed when incurred in the performance of his/her duties or in the performance of functions authorized by the Board and duly vouchered.

The following guidelines have been established by the Board of Directors to ensure appropriate and proper reimbursement of expenses for Board members.

Expenses will be reimbursed only for activities authorized by the Board.

Reimbursement for mileage will not exceed the current rate established by the Internal Revenue Service.

When attending a Board-approved conference, all reasonable fees, parking, mileage, meals, and housing will be reimbursed.

No entertainment expenses or purchases of alcoholic beverages are reimbursable.

A voucher detailing the amount and nature of each expense must be submitted to the Board for approval at a Board meeting after the expenses have been incurred and prior to reimbursement.

0144.2

Board Member Ethics

As members of the Board of Directors, Board members will strive to improve public education and to that end they will:

- A. attend all regularly scheduled and special Board Meetings insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;
- B. recognize that they should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held Board meetings;
- C. render all decisions based on the available facts and independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;
- D. encourage the free expression of opinion by all Board members, and seek systematic communications between the Board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;
- E. work with the other Board members to establish effective Board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the School to the School Leader;
- F. communicate to other Board members and the School Leader expressions of public reaction to Board policies and school programs;
- G. inform themselves about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information;
- H. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff, and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;
- I. avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and refrain from using their Board positions for personal partisan gain;
- J. take no private action that will compromise the Board or administration, and respect the confidentiality of information that is