

CODE OF ETHICS/STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

**BP No.
2715**

Board Adopted: 11/12/03; 5/14/08; 1/15/14; 1/13/16; 7/12/17; 4/10/19
(Reviewed at Board Study Session on 6/14/13 and Board Retreat on
8/10/13)

Page 1 of 2

- I. The Board of Trustees maintains high standards of ethical conduct for its members and adopts Standards of Good Practice to promote a healthy working relationship among its members and its Superintendent/President, based upon mutual trust and support. Members of the Board are responsible to:
- Act only in the best interest of the District;
 - Ensure public input into Board of Trustees deliberations, adhering to the law and spirit of the open meeting laws and regulations;
 - Prevent conflicts of interest and the perception of conflicts of interest;
 - Prevent breach of confidentiality or perception of breach of confidentiality;
 - Support the District mission;
 - Ensure that students receive the highest quality education;
 - Exercise authority, not as individuals, only as a Board;
 - Use appropriate channels of communication;
 - Respect others and act with civility;
 - Remain informed about the District, educational issues, and responsibilities of Board membership;
 - Devote adequate time to Board work and preparing for meetings;
 - Maintain the confidentiality of closed sessions;
 - Deal with any violations;
 - Adhere to the established Board protocols; and
 - Adhere to responsibilities and legal requirements as elected officials or appointed college representatives

- II. The Board will promptly address any violation by a Board member or Board members of the Code of Ethics in the following manner:

If a Board member feels BP 2715, Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice has been violated, the Board member should go to the President of the Board, or Vice President of the Board if the President of the Board is in violation. The President (or Vice President) of the Board shall go to the Board member (or Board President) who violated the policy and have a discussion to resolve the violation.

If not resolved, the President of the Board/Vice President of the Board, in open session at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, will appoint a committee of two Board members to hear the case within a two-week period of the notification to determine if censure is in order.

If the appointed Board committee finds that the Board member should be censured, the item will be placed on the next regular Board meeting agenda for full Board discussion and follow the censure process associated with Robert's Rules of Order, the Board's chosen method of handling the Board's official business (Board Study Session 6-14-13 and reaffirmed at the Board Retreat on August 10, 2013).

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Page 2 of 2

If the alleged behavior violates laws, the President of the Board/Vice President of the Board may seek legal counsel and the violations referred to the District Attorney or Attorney General, as provided for in law.

III. The Board will review the Code of Ethics statement at least annually. (Agreed at the June 14, 2013 study session and reaffirmed at the Board Retreat on August 10, 2013.)

IV. Sources/References:

ACCJC Accreditation Standards IV.C.11 (formerly. IV.B.1. a, e, & h).