

## BP 2715 Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice

Reference:

***Accreditation Standard 10.A.5. (Old BP 1.9)***

The Board maintains high standards of ethical conduct for its members. The primary responsibility of the Governing Board in our District is to ensure learning opportunities for students in an equitable manner. The Board is charged to carry out legal and ethical obligations. As a result, the members of the Board and the Board as a whole ascribe to the following tenets in fulfilling the mission and goals of the District in their role as trustee:

- Recognizing that we represent the citizens of the District and maintaining an awareness at all times of the obligations of our office;
- Acting in the best interest of the needs of the students we serve;
- Recognizing that we represent the District as a whole, but also recognizing the special and individual needs of each service area;
- Always resisting the temptation to bow to the pressure to use the position of trustee for personal or other benefit apart from the welfare of the Imperial Community College District;
- Representing the interests of the District and the community rather than those of special interest groups;
- Honoring the opinions and values of other trustees;
- Creating an atmosphere of mutual trust, respect, and appreciation among students, faculty, staff and the community at large, and maintaining fair and equitable treatment of all employees;
- Maintaining an atmosphere in which controversial issues can be debated openly and respect given to all individuals;
- Recognizing that authority rests only with the Board and not with individual members;
- Delegating authority to the Superintendent/President as Board
- Executive and confining Board action to policy determination, planning, overall approval and evaluation;
- Developing budgets that maintaining fiscal integrity and stability for the District;
- Maintaining confidentiality of all privileged information;
- Conducting District business in public sessions except for those legal items spelled out in the "Brown Act" that are appropriate for a closed session;

- **Maintaining open communication with the Superintendent/President and college communities and creating an environment where all necessary parties have the opportunity to stay well informed;**
- **Abiding by established policies and procedures in the execution of our duties;**
- **Being an advocate of the Imperial Community College District and supporting its mission;**
- **Acting only in the best interests of the entire community.**
- **Ensuring public input into Board deliberations; adhering to the law and spirit of the open meeting laws and regulations.**
- **Preventing conflicts of interest and the perception of conflicts of interest.**
- **Exercising authority only as a Board.**
- **Using appropriate channels of communication.**
- **Respecting others; acting with civility.**
- **Being informed about the District, educational issues, and responsibilities of trusteeship.**
- **Devoting adequate time to Board work.**
- **Maintaining confidentiality of closed sessions.**