

Trustee Code of Ethics & Conduct

-PREAMBLE-

School District No. 58 (Nicola Similkameen) resides in the two Traditional Territories of the Nle?kepmux and Syilx people and serves the seven distinct communities of Shackan, Nooaitch, Lower Nicola, Coldwater, Upper Nicola, Princeton and Merritt. The Board of Education is comprised of elected members from these diverse communities and are committed to serving its members and meeting the vision of "Success for ALL Learners – Today and Tomorrow" with a commitment to both Human Rights and Truth and Reconciliation.

Trustee Code of Ethics & Conduct

The Board of Education is comprised of elected members of the community and is fundamental to the effectiveness of the public education system within the community. In British Columbia, boards of education are responsible for public schools (K-12), early learning, and adult literacy. They share these responsibilities as governors with the provincial Ministry of Education. Broadly speaking, boards provide district recommendations and reports from staff, and making decisions in the staff and the district. The day-to-day administration of the education program and school operation is the responsibility of the superintendent of schools and

-POLICY-

In accordance with the School Act, the Nicola Similkameen Board of Education recognizes its primary mandate to determine policy for the effective and efficient operation of its schools. The Board is committed to providing high quality education for all public school students within a supportive, accessible, and enriching learning environment.

As democratically elected members of the Board, Trustees fully acknowledge the critical trust invested in the Board by the electorate and are dedicated to governing the affairs and business of the Nicola Similkameen District in a fair, respectful, and professional manner that recognizes and affirms the rights and dignity of all students. Trustees represent the broad, diverse needs of the entire School District and the community, allocating, through the appropriate channels, resources efficiently, inclusively, and responsibly in the best interest of all students.

Trustees advocate for public education and promote the unique culture, vision, values, goals, and initiatives of the School District to other levels of government, stakeholders, and partners. The Board, representing all members of the community, wishes to operate under the highest of ethical standards. To this end, trustees will aspire to these statements:

COMMITMENT STATEMENTS

1. Decorum

By working collaboratively and creatively with administrators, teachers, parents, and community leaders, Trustees model and contribute to a positive and receptive learning and working culture both within the Board and the School District. In exercising their duties of governance, Trustees understand the importance of mutual respect, transparency, and impartiality. Committed to ethical practice and principles, Trustees shall act with integrity and be accountable for their actions and decisions. To fulfill the responsibilities of public office effectively, Trustees are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of the Board; in the event of an unavoidable absence, Trustees shall inform the Board Chat 1. Decisishaki , Trustees shallnd csiunder-2 (i)-4 ()-10 (f)3 (ormount)-2 (a)4 (t)-2 (i)-2

Administrative Procedures

MAINTENANCE OF THE CODE

1. Trustees are encouraged to seek appropriate conciliatory and restorative measures prior to commencing in making an official complaint with regard to a violation of this code of conduct. A violation of this code of conduct may result in the Board instituting, without limiting what follows, any or all of the following sanctions which may only be implemented by a motion of those trustees present at a closed (camera) meeting of the Board.

- a. having the board chair write a letter of concern/warning;
- b. having the Board chair write a letter of censure;
- c. having a motion of censure passed and removing the trustee from some or all board committees or other appointments of the Board.

2. The respondent will be given opportunity to reply to the complaint prior to any motions being made.

Resources

School Trustee Oath of Office Regulation Ministry of Education, Province of BC
Local Government Elections Regulation Ministry of Education, Province of BC