

POLICY TYPE: GOVERNANCE PROCESS

POLICY TITLE: BOARD MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

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The Board commits itself and its members to ethical and businesslike conduct. This includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum when acting as Board members.

1. Members must represent the best interests of the residents of the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College District. This accountability supersedes any conflicting loyalty such as that to advocacy or interest groups and membership on other boards or staffs. It also supersedes the personal interest of any Board member acting as a consumer of the organization's services.
2. Members must avoid conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
  - A. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Board member and the organization except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to "inside" information.
  - B. When the Board is to decide upon an issue about which a member has an unavoidable personal conflict of interest, that member shall abstain from the vote.
  - C. Board members must not use their positions to obtain employment in the organization for themselves, family members, or close associates. Should a member apply for employment, he or she must first resign.
  - D. Board members must maintain confidentiality of privileged information and refuse to use his/her position on the Board or any confidential information in any way for personal gain.
3. Board members may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the organization except as explicitly set forth in Board policies.
  - A. Members' interaction with the President or with staff must recognize the lack of authority vested in individual Board members except when explicitly Board-authorized.

- B. Members' interaction with the public, press, or other entities must recognize the lack of authority vested in individual Board members except when explicitly Board-authorized.
  - C. Members will give no consequence or voice to individual judgments of the President or staff performance.
  - D. Board members recognize that each Trustee is only one member of a team and that all Board actions are taken as a group in such a manner that the best interests of the entire College community are advanced.
4. It is the policy of the Board that the primary use of technology and telecommunications will be for facilitating communication among Board members and between Board members and administration.

Board members will use the technology equipment and Internet in a manner consistent with appropriate College codes of conduct, user guidelines and applicable state, federal, and international law. Violation of College policies or state, federal, local, or international law will subject the user to relinquish the WITC provided equipment and Internet access, and possible criminal prosecution.