Code of Ethics for School Board Members
Williamson County Board of Education

ARTICLE I. MY RELATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS

Section 1. I will at all times think in terms of “students first,” always determining other important things according to how they affect the education and development of students.

Section 2. I will seek to provide equal opportunities for all students in academics, the arts, and athletics.

ARTICLE II. MY RELATIONS WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Section 1. I will fairly appraise and support both present and future educational needs.

Section 2. I will represent at all times the entire school community and refuse to represent special interests or partisan politics.

Section 3. I will maintain open lines of communication with the community.

ARTICLE III. MY RELATIONS TO OUR DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Section 1. I will support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve in our district.

Section 2. I will strive to secure resources that allow our employees to perform with excellence.

Section 3. I will celebrate employee accomplishments and refrain from public critique.

ARTICLE IV. MY RELATIONS WITH OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. I will recognize that authority rests only with the Board in official meetings and that the individual member has no legal status outside of such meetings.

Section 2. I will at all times comply with the Tennessee Open Meetings Act (the “Sunshine Law”).

Section 3. I will make final decisions only after full discussion of matters at a Board meeting.

Section 4. I will respect the opinion of other members and will accept the principle of “majority rule.”
Section 5. I will attend all regularly scheduled Board meetings, insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings.

Section 6. I will work with other Board members to establish effective Board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the Superintendent.

ARTICLE V. MY RELATIONS WITH OUR SUPERINTENDENT

Section 1. I will support full administrative authority as well as responsibility for the Superintendent to properly discharge all professional duties.

Section 2. I will support Superintendent accountability for working and requiring staff to work within the framework of policies set by the Board.

Section 3. I will refer all complaints and concerns to the Superintendent.

ARTICLE VI. MY RELATIONS TO MYSELF

Section 1. I will inform myself about my duties and responsibilities and current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information.

Section 2. I will avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest.

Section 3. I will refrain from using my position on the Board for personal or partisan gain.

Section 4. I will take no private action that will compromise the Board, the District or administration.

Section 5. I will respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged under applicable law.

Affirmed by the Board
October 20, 2014