

WAITAKERE COLLEGE

Section B (NAG 2) BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Policy: Code of Behaviour

Date of Review: August 2022

Reviewers: Board Chairperson, Principal

Goal

The board members will act in an ethical and respectful manner following the College values of Respect, Caring and Learning.

Objective

Every member of the board will have access to the code of behaviour and opportunities to discuss its expectations of their conduct. Board business will be conducted in an ethical and respectful manner, in accordance with legislation and board policy and Treaty of Waitangi Policies.

Expectations and limitations

As members of an effective governance team, each member of the board of trustees shall:

- ensure the needs of all students and their achievement is paramount
- be loyal to the school and its mission
- maintain and understand the values and goals of the school
- protect the special character of the school and our values
- publicly represent the school in a positive manner
- respect the integrity of the principal and staff
- observe the confidentiality of non-public information acquired in their role as a trustee and not disclose to any other persons such information that might be harmful to the school
- be diligent and attend board meetings prepared for full and appropriate participation in decision making
- ensure that individual trustees do not act independently of the board's decisions
- speak with one voice through board policies and ensure that any disagreements with the board's stance are resolved within the board
- in the course of board meetings, disclose any interests in a transaction or decision where they, their family and/or partner, employer or close associate will receive a benefit or gain and leave the meeting for the duration of discussion and/or voting in relation to the matter
- recognise the lack of authority of any individual trustee or committee/working party of the board in any interaction with the principal or staff
- recognise that only the chair (working within the board's agreed chair role description or delegation) or a delegate working under written delegation can speak for the board

- continually self-monitor their individual performance as trustees against policies and any other current board evaluation tools
- be available to undertake appropriate professional development including a focus on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and good governance
- not act or advocate in a way that discriminates against, nor act in a way that unjustifiably favours, particular individuals, groups, identities or interests
- speak up when seeing unethical behavior. Treat all concerns raised seriously. Encourage an open culture where all staff, communities and students feel safe speaking up
- work with fellow board members to authentically engage with all people in the community, including whanau, local Māori communities, iwi and hapū, fairly, impartially, promptly and sensitively to help inform the decision made
- follow board policy procedures in relation to any offers or gifts or hospitality. Never seek gifts, hospitality or favours for themselves, members of their family or other close associates
- act in accordance with all statutory and administrative requirements relevant to the role of the school board (including as an employer) and will seek guidance and support if and where required

Legislative compliance

[Education and Training Act 2020](#)

Chairperson

Principal

Date