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School Board Operating Protocol

In order to enhance teamwork among the district's senior leadership team (the board and superintendent), each member of that team hereby makes a commitment to learning board policies and carrying out these basic principles:

Communication. Good communication with staff and among the senior leadership team is extremely important. All team members will follow board policy in their communications. Whenever possible, each team member agrees to ask the board chair or superintendent to place an item on the agenda before bringing the item up at the meeting. During meetings, the board will not play to the audience, but will speak only to issues on the agenda, and attend directly to the chair and other team members. (Policies: BA, Board Goals; BBAA, Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities; BDDC, Board Meeting Agenda; BG, Board Staff Communications)

Follow the chain of command. While we acknowledge the role of board members to listen to district stakeholders, board members should refer constituents and staff with issues and concerns to communicate those matters directly to the staff person who can properly and expeditiously address it at the lowest level. Board members likewise agree to communicate through the district's organizational chain of command. (Policies: BBF, Board Member Standards of Conduct; BCD, Board-Superintendent Relationship)

Exemplify sound governance. The team will, whenever possible, participate in board development activities of the district and the Oregon School Boards Association. Board members will at least annually study and review policies and strategic plans while efficiently and appropriately engaging stakeholders. The board will address its behavior and effectiveness at least biannually through a third-party-facilitated self-evaluation process. (Policies: **BHB**, Board Member Development; **BK**, Evaluation of Board Operational Procedures)

Understand and own board authority. Do not act individually without the full, majority consent of the board. Only the superintendent will communicate the official position(s) of the district and the board unless the board as a whole has voted to direct otherwise. Board members will not react to impromptu complaints on the spot, but will assure any individual that the school district will follow up. Once a board vote has occurred, all team members will support the outcome. (Policies: BBAA, Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities; BBF, Board Member Standards of Conduct; BCB, Board Officers)

Signed, This 23rd Day of May, 2019

Board Chair

Superintendent

Board Adopted 5.9.19