DO’s AND DON’Ts FOR BOARD MEMBERS BASED ON THE
CODE OF ETHICS

1. DO uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, court orders and local board policy when making decisions. DON’T bend the rules, ask others to bend the rules, or think that you can accomplish anything as an individual that compromises the legal guidelines established by the board.

2. DO make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing. DON’T base your decisions on special interest agendas or on what is best for your own child.

3. DO confine your actions to policymaking, planning and appraisal. DON’T become involved in the administration, organization or implementation of the policy and the goals. That’s the role of the professional educators.

4. DO understand that your responsibility is to work as a board to see that the schools are well run. DON’T think that your role is to be involved in the day-to-day running of the schools – that is the administrators’ job.

5. DO understand that only the full board has the right to make decisions. DON’T make personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.

6. DO make decisions based on district goals and policies. DON’T be swayed by special interest or partisan political groups.

7. DO insist that the board keep the community informed on the progress and needs of the district. DON’T discuss confidential matters with anyone but the board.

8. DO consider of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer on all matters pertaining to education. DON’T undermine a decision of the board.

9. DO support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties. DON’T violate the chain of command or publicly criticize staff members.

10. DO refer all complaints to the superintendent. DON’T make any promises to “help” or act on citizen complaints until they reach the board level after failure of an administrative solution.