

Maercker SD 60
Board Agreements
January 31, 2018

Unity of purpose

We affirm the unique role of public education, whereby each community collectively pools its resources for the common good through the education of its students. Therefore, we seek to uphold and improve public education for our community.

- We want to build trust and move the district forward.
- We want to become an effective team.
- We want to understand our individual jobs and collective responsibilities.
- We want to be a team with a common, focused direction.
- We want to create a district culture that supports positive change.
- We want to perpetuate a positive district culture that survives in the face of board member and staff turnover.

Please refer to the IASB Policy Reference Manual:

2:20 Powers and Duties of the School Board

2:80-E Board member Code of Conduct

Concerns from the community and staff (“Customer” concerns)

- Board members will listen carefully, remembering they are only hearing one side of the story.
- Board members will then direct that person to the person in the district most appropriate (Chain of Command) who is able to help them resolve their concern.
- Board members handling concerns in this manner will clarify that one board member has no individual authority to fix a problem.
- Board members will contact the superintendent if they think this is an issue of concern.

Board Responsibility

- No individual board member other than the board president, per board policy, has the authority to act or speak on behalf of the board without the consent of the board.
- Board members have an obligation to express their opinions and respect others’ opinions.
- Board members understand the importance of speaking with one clear voice to the superintendent.
- Board members have the right to disagree with the decision of the board, but will support the board in its decision by abiding by the will of the majority.

Asking questions about items on upcoming meeting agendas

- Whenever possible, board members will contact the superintendent with any questions on the agenda prior to the board meeting.
- Board members understand that although they are asking the question(s) prior to the meeting, they have a right to ask the question(s) at the meeting as well.

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No Surprises

- No one (superintendent or board members) gets surprised at any time – in the meeting or between meetings.
- The truth of no surprises is respect for all participants and the process.

Agenda development

- Requests for additions to the agenda will be made during the agenda topic, “Agenda Items for Consideration” during a board meeting.
 - The board president will ascertain that there is a majority of board members who agree to have the suggested item placed on a future board meeting agenda.
- Board members may also contact the superintendent and “cc” the board president with suggested agenda items at least seven days before the meeting.
- The board of the whole will decide to put an item on a future agenda before significant staff time is expended.

Board member requests for information/questions

- Board members will self-monitor to ensure one person’s request for information does not divert an inappropriate amount of time from staff efforts to achieve district goals.
- Should the superintendent determine that a request for information may require more than 30 minutes to fulfill, at his discretion he may bring that request to the board for a consensus to proceed.

Preparation for meetings

- Board members will come prepared for board meetings having read their packet and called ahead with any questions.

Spokespersons for the board

- Per board policy, the board president is the spokesperson for the board to the media.
- The superintendent is the spokesperson for the district.

Visiting campuses

- Board members who plan on visiting a school in their role as a board member will call the superintendent prior to their visit.

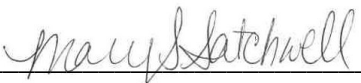
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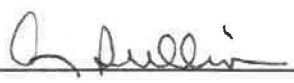
Closed session meetings

- Board members respect the confidentiality of privileged information and will not divulge conversations, discussions, or deliberations that take place during a closed session meeting.
- Board members understand that to divulge closed session information not only damages the relationship of the team, but has the potential for far reaching consequences which may impact future district operations.

Behavioral Expectations

- Start with the common belief that everyone has good intentions.
- Create a safe environment for the productive exchange of ideas.
- Sincerely listen and seek to understand the viewpoints of others.
- Solve problems through a collaborative process where all participants support the decision and actively work toward its implementation.


Secretary, Board of Education


Vice President, Board of Education

Maercker District 60 Board of Education
Adopted: July 8, 2013

Amended: May 16, 2016
February 20, 2018