



Book	VCCCD Board Policy Manual
Section	Chapter 2 Board of Trustees
Title	BP 2715 BOARD CODE OF ETHICS/STANDARDS OF PRACTICE
Number	BP 2715
Status	Active
Legal	Accreditation Standard IV.B.1.a, e & h
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The Board, as an independent policy making body, shall maintain high standards of ethical conduct for its members. Members of the Board are responsible to:

- Establish and support the mission and policies of the District.
- Act only in the best interests of the entire community.
- Advocate, defend, and represent the District and colleges equally through decision-making unbiased by personal interest, special interest, or partisan political influences.
- Ensure public input into Board deliberations.
- Adhere to both open and closed meeting state laws and regulations.
- Prevent conflicts of interest and the perception of conflicts of interest.
- Exercise authority only as a Policy Board and fully support Board actions as a unit once taken.
- Use appropriate, formal channels of District communication, and encourage others to do so.
- Respect divergent opinions and treat others with civility.
- Be informed about the District, educational issues and the responsibilities of trusteeship.
- Be informed about and comply with accreditation requirements and process.
- Devote adequate time to the work of the Board.
- Read materials and raise questions prior to public meeting, when possible.
- File Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 in a timely manner, as required by law.
- Complete ethics training for elected officials as required by law.
- Commit to continuous, measurable, sustainable improvements in Board performance through professional development and Board self-evaluation.
- Observe the Open Meeting Act and maintain the confidentiality of closed sessions and other confidential matters.
- Ensure all Board members adhere to Board policies, Board of Trustees Best Practices Agreement, VCCCD Trustee Ground Rules, and Community College League of California Board and CEO Roles, Different Jobs, Different Tasks (attachments).

All Board members are expected to maintain high standards of conduct and ethical behavior. In order to maintain public confidence in the Board, and in the institutional integrity of the colleges under its governance, the Board will be prepared to investigate the factual basis behind any charge or complaint of Trustee misconduct.

Trustee misconduct may result in censure and/or sanction(s). Censure is an official, public expression of disapproval passed by the Board. A Board member may be subject to a resolution of censure by the Board should

it be determined that Trustee misconduct has occurred. Sanction is enacting a penalty for inappropriate behavior. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, a Trustee's removal from serving on all Board committees or removal from Board office (i.e., Chair or Vice Chair).

See Administrative Procedures [AP 2715\(A\)](#) and [AP 2715\(B\)](#).

[BP 2715 Board Best Practices Agreement 3.12.13.pdf \(101 KB\)](#)

[BP 2715 Attachment VCCCD Trustee Ground Rules BoT Approval 3.10.15.pdf \(91 KB\)](#)

[BP 2715 CCLC CEO Roles, Different Jobs, Different Tasks Attachment BoT Approval 5.12.15.pdf \(4,757 KB\)](#)