

Code of Ethical & Professional Conduct for Members of the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach


While serving as a Member of the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach, I will aspire to be an ethical and professional public servant responsible for our School Division. To that end, I will strive to:

1. **Serve** with integrity and fairness while adhering to School Board bylaws and policies and local, state, and national law in all matters concerning the provision of high quality teaching and learning experiences for all students attending Virginia Beach City Public Schools.
2. **Recognize** that, as an individual School Board Member, I can only speak or act for myself and not on behalf of the School Board unless otherwise authorized to publicly present positions adopted by the School Board.
3. **Actively participate** in School Board related business by attending all meetings where I am expected; being informed on topics being discussed; asking meaningful questions; providing constructive feedback; and respectfully listening to the input, including differing opinions and ideas, of all other participants while maintaining personal professional decorum.
4. **Collaborate** with all Members of the School Board and the Superintendent to make effective and responsible policy, budget, or other necessary decisions for the welfare of all stakeholders based on available data, staff recommendations, public input, and my own informed and independent judgement.
5. **Encourage** productive dialogue by being respectful in *all* forms of public communication relating to my colleagues without disparagement, resolving personal disagreements or misunderstandings with individual School Board Members directly, advocating for the success of our schools, keeping the public informed, and communicating appropriate public feedback to the School Board and Superintendent.
6. **Protect** the confidentiality of privileged information and not discuss confidential business in public or to anyone not privy to such information.
7. **Accept** the decisions of the majority of the School Board and support the implementation of those decisions while also respectfully advocating for change when I believe change would benefit our School Division.
8. **Respect** that the Superintendent and staff are skilled and qualified professionals and delegate to them authority for the administration of our School Division while providing oversight through a system of regular substantive evaluations of the Superintendent based on established goals and outcomes.
9. **Improve** my ability to serve as a School Board Member by studying educational issues and participating in appropriate professional development.
10. **Abstain** from using my position on the School Board for personal gain and avoid conflicts of interest or impropriety that could be reasonably believed to influence my service on the School Board or exert undue influence on employees of our School Division.

Whenever a member believes that another has acted inconsistently with the Code of Ethical and Professional Conduct, it is incumbent on him or her to first bring the issue to that member in an attempt to resolve. If unresolved and the Chairperson is not involved, the concern will be brought to the attention of the Chairperson who will seek resolution of the concern. If the Chairperson is involved, the Vice Chair will seek resolution. If the concern is not resolved, it will be brought to the full School Board in a special meeting.



Beverly M. Anderson, Chair
At-Large

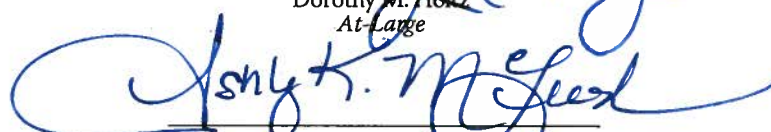

Daniel D. Edwards, Vice Chair
District 2 - Kempsville



Sharon R. Felton
District 6 - Beach


Dorothy M. Holtz
At-Large



Victoria C. Manning
At-Large

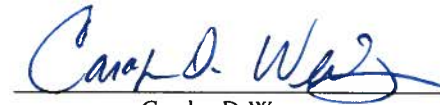

Joel A. McDonald
District 3 - Rose Hall


Ashley K. McLeod
At-Large


Kimberly A. Melnyk
District 7 - Princess Anne


Trenace B. Riggs
District 1 - Centerville


Carolyn T. Rye
District 5 - Lynnhaven


Carolyn D. Weems
District 4 - Bayside

