

The North Canaan Board of Education, both as a body of elected representatives of their respective towns and as an agent of the State of Connecticut, recognizes its responsibility to maintain high standards of honesty and integrity in providing for the education of the children in our school. The Board believes that it is responsible not only for the well-being of the educational system, but also for the positive relationship of the system with the community and its constituents. Correspondingly, the Board accepts the ethical principles that it believes are necessary to maintain the reputation of the Board within all areas of the extended community.

The North Canaan Board of Education will provide an education of high quality by:

- Making the well-being of students the fundamental principle in all decisions and actions;
- Becoming informed about the nature, value and direction of contemporary education and supporting continual improvement in the schools;
- Acting as staunch advocates for high quality schools, instructional curricula and professional staff dedicated to the educational welfare of all children, regardless of ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing;
- Assuring that public funds shall be expended efficiently, economically and in the best interest of the schools.

The North Canaan of Education recognizes that individual Board members, to insure democratic representative, have a responsibility to:

- Recognize that no one member has any authority except at board meetings or when discharging an assignment made by the Board;
- Make every effort to attend all regular and special board meetings;
- Listen as well as lead;
- Respect other opinions that differ from one's own;
- Work with other members to establish effective Board Policies;
- Become informed concerning the issues to be considered at each meeting;
- Maintain confidentiality of privileged information;
- Remember that final actions, made by majority vote in an official meeting, should be respectfully abided by all members;
- Refrain from using the position for personal gain.

The North Canaan Board of Education will govern effectively and with integrity by:

- Representing the entire community without fear or favor;
- Upholding and enforcing all laws, rules, regulations, and court orders pertaining to public schools;
- Serving as an effective communications link between the community and the schools;
- Ensuring that all school business transactions are open and ethical;
- Confining Board action to policy making, planning and evaluation;
- Recognizing the chain of command in problem resolution, beginning with the teachers, followed by the Principal, the Superintendent, and finally the Board of Education.

Adopted: February 27, 2014

Revised: December 14, 2021