

LESMURDIE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BOARD MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Adopted 31 August, 2020

Endorsed 18 October 2021

General

1. Board members will abide by all relevant legislation, industrial agreements, and this Code of Conduct.
2. Board members are accountable to the local school community, and the Director General.

Board Decisions

3. Board members will take into account the following, as primary considerations, in making Board Decisions:
 - a. The school's values;
 - b. The best interests of students.
4. Board members agreed to represent the school community and not only one viewpoint or the view of an individual.
5. Board members will regularly seek the views and opinions of the whole School community, especially when new policies are being developed or major decisions undertaken that may have a significant impact on the school.

Board Conduct

6. In fulfilling their duties, Board members will:
 - a. conduct themselves in a civil and respectful manner at Board meetings and in the course of Board business;
 - b. promote respectful partnerships;
 - c. utilise clear and honest two-way communication and transparent processes;
 - d. promote democratic, informed decision-making;
 - e. act for the benefit of the School and not for personal, professional or third party gain or financial enrichment;
 - f. discharge their duties in good faith and with impartiality, honesty, integrity and due diligence;
 - g. demonstrate personal and professional integrity.
7. Board members will maintain confidentiality and privacy with regard to sensitive matters that may arise at Board meetings, especially when matters of a personal nature relating to staff, students, or parents arise.
8. Except in so far as necessary for the proper conduct of Board business, Board members will not discuss individual school staff, students, parents, or other members of the school community at Board meetings.
9. A Board member who is approached by a parent with a concern will treat such discussion with discretion, protecting the confidentiality and privacy of the people involved. If the issue relates to an operational matter of the school, the parent will be encouraged to speak with the principal or the classroom teacher. However, if the issue relates to a school policy or procedure, it will be put on the agenda for discussion at the next School Board meeting, where it will be dealt with in a generic sense to protect the privacy of individuals involved.
10. Board members will declare any conflicts of interest when they arise. Members who have declared a conflict of interest are not entitled to vote on any matter in respect of which they have declared a conflict.
11. Board members will “speak as one voice” in the public arena once a decision has been made.
12. Conflict between School Board members will be dealt with respectfully and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.
13. Board members who are also current members of Parliament or local government or who are planning to nominate as candidates for an election do not need to resign from the Board, but should consider whether it is appropriate not to attend board meetings in the

period leading up to the election if they consider there is a real or perceived conflict of interest.

14. Members who are unable to attend a meeting will furnish apologies as soon as possible before the meeting.

**Adopted by Lesmurdie SHS Board
31 August, 2020**

**Endorsed by Lesmurdie SHS Board
18 October, 2021**