

Lakeland Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in September	Descriptor Term: Duties of Board Members and Board Norms	Descriptor Code: 1.202	Issued Date: 05/12/14
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 The duties of an individual board member shall be as follows:

- 2 1. To become familiar with education laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education
- 3 and the State Department of Education, and school board policies;
- 4 2. To participate in State-mandated board training;¹
- 5 3. To have a general knowledge of the educational aims and objectives of the system;
- 6 4. To work harmoniously with other board members without trying either to dominate the Board
- 7 or neglect his/her share of the work;
- 8 5. To vote and act impartially for the good of the school system;
- 9 6. To accept the will of the majority vote in all cases and give support to the resulting action;
- 10 7. To represent the Board and the school system to the public in such a way as to promote both
- 11 interest and support; and
- 12 8. To refer complaints to the superintendent and to abstain from individual counsel and action in
- 13 regard to staff members.

14 The norms of the Lakeland School Board are as follows:

- 15 1. The Board has adopted principles of courtesy and respect to guide behavior of its members.
- 16 These principles are to be considered and observed to the extent practicable by Board members
- 17 in the conduct of Board business.
- 18
- 19 2. Board members should read all Board-related materials, and should attend work sessions.
- 20 Board members should use the work session for in-depth discussion.
- 21
- 22 3. Board members should make a request to the Executive Committee to place an item on a work
- 23 session agenda per Board Policy 1.403, Board Meeting Agendas, before bringing it to the floor
- 24 of the Board meeting.
- 25
- 26 4. Board members should support having a policy reviewed at the next policy committee meeting
- 27 if that policy was suspended for a Board vote.
- 28
- 29 5. Board members should be mindful that statutory authority for the administration and operation
- 30 of the schools rests with the Superintendent.

- 1 6. Board members should refer complaints and concerns to the appropriate staff per Board Policy
- 2 5.501, Complaints and Grievances, and inform the Superintendent of all such referrals.
- 3
- 4 7. Board members should share with fellow Board members and the Superintendent, courtesy
- 5 copies of newsletters or similar reports sent to members of the community.
- 6
- 7 8. Board members should show courtesy and respect in their use of electronic devices at all
- 8 meetings.

Legal References

- 1. TCA 49-2-202(a)(5); TRR/MS 0520-1-2-.11

Cross References

- Role of the Board 1.101
- Ethics 1.106