

BOARD ETHICS AND BEHAVIOR POLICY

I. Purpose.

The Clarkston Independence District Library Board understands that the trust of its community is crucial to achieving its mission. Therefore, all Board members must conduct business on behalf of the Library with the highest level of integrity avoiding any impropriety or the appearance of impropriety.

II. Policy.

1. Board members must perform their duties diligently. Board members should understand their fiduciary obligation to act in the best interests of the Library.
2. Board members should not engage in discrimination of any kind, including discrimination that violates state or federal law.
3. Board members should understand and follow the requirements of the United States and Michigan Constitution. Board members shall also follow all federal, state, and applicable local laws, including but not limited to the Michigan Library Privacy Act and Open Meetings Act.
4. Board members should avoid situations in which their personal interests, activities or financial affairs are, or are likely to be, perceived as being in conflict with the best interests of the Library.
5. A conflict of interest shall include, but is not limited to, a matter pending before the Library Board in which the Board member has a direct pecuniary interest. The Board member has an obligation to notify the Board President if there is a matter that is or may be a conflict of interest. If the Library Board determines a legal conflict of interest exists, the Board member shall not participate in the discussion or decision involving the matter.
6. Board members should not use or attempt to use their position with the Library to obtain unwarranted privileges or advantages for themselves or others. Board members should adhere to all procedures and policies of the Library and shall not attempt to obtain special privileges relating to the use of the Library.
7. Board members should engage in civil discussions on Library Board issues and agenda items. Once a decision is made, Board members are expected to support the decision of the Board even if the Board member did not vote in favor of the decision.
8. Board members will actively formulate policies to provide a framework that enables staff to develop the operational procedures necessary to successfully complete the Library's mission. Board members will monitor adherence to those policies.

9. Board members will be respectful of the Library Director and his or her position and will not interfere with his or her administrative duties or undermine the Director's authority, both with the staff and with management of the Library.

10. Board members will be respectful, fair, and act in good faith toward other Board members, staff, and patrons and maintain professionalism at all times.

III. Compliance with Policy.

Upon taking the oath of office, each Board member shall read this policy and sign a statement agreeing to comply with the policy.

By signing this document, I agree to follow the policy and adhere to the standards set forth in the policy:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Library Board Approved: 7.13.2026