

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 communicate 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 regarding the work of the School Board, the School Division, my colleagues, School Division employees, and community members without disparagement, and will resolve personal disagreements or misunderstandings with individuals directly.
6. *Communicate* the work of the School Division to all stakeholders as appropriate while advocating for the success of our schools and communicating public feedback to my colleagues on the School Board and the Superintendent.
7. *Protect* confidential and privileged information and not publicly disclose or share with anyone not authorized to have such information.
8. *Seek* desired improvement of the School Division while respecting the decisions of the majority of the School Board and supporting the implementation of those decisions.
9. *Respect* that the Superintendent and staff are skilled and qualified professionals, delegate to them authority for the administration of our School Division, refrain from interfering with that authority, and provide oversight through a system of regular substantive evaluations of the Superintendent based on established goals and outcomes.
10. *Improve* my ability to serve as a School Board Member by studying educational issues and participating in appropriate professional development.
11. *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 privately 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 Chairperson will seek resolution. If the concern is not resolved, it will be brought to the full School Board in a special meeting.

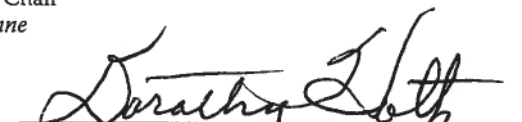
Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 22nd day of January 2019


Beverly M. Anderson, Chair
At-Large


Kimberly A. Melnyk, Vice Chair
District 7 – Princess Anne

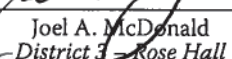

Daniel D. Edwards
District 2 – Kempsville



Sharon R. Felton
District 6 – Beach


Dorothy M. Holtz
At-Large



Laura K. Hughes
At-Large


Victoria C. Manning
At-Large


Joel A. McDonald
District 3 – Rose Hall


Trenace B. Riggs
District 1 – Centerville


Carolyn T. Rye
District 5 – Lynnhaven


Carolyn D. Weems
District 4 – Bayside

