

# CODE OF ETHICS FOR CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

A CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION is a body whose members participate in decision-making in designated areas on the local, regional, or diocesan level. This body is configured to reflect the Catholic Church's commitment to collegiality and subsidiarity in accordance with the directions of the Second Vatican Council.\*

As a member of a Catholic board of education, the virtues or traits of character that I must exemplify if I am to fulfill my responsibilities ethically are:

- **Justice** – Honor the important role of the school with regard to the teaching mission of the Catholic Church
- **Industriousness** – Be thoroughly familiar with the mission of the school and all board policies, bylaws, and decisions
- **Conscientiousness** – Recognize the need for continuing education about the school and my ongoing responsibilities as a board member
- **Dependability** – Be prepared for every meeting and complete whatever assignments I have been given
- **Trustworthiness** – Keep secret all matters communicated to me in confidence
- **Cooperativeness** – Support the chief administrator and the board chair
- **Self-discipline** – Avoid interfering in administrative matters which are outside of my responsibilities
- **Loyalty** – Remain faithful to all board decisions
- **Tolerance** – Uphold board decisions even if I am personally opposed
- **Fairness** – Remain open to the opinions of others
- **Honesty** – Abstain from all issues where there is a conflict of interest
- **Courtesy** – Be respectful to all board members and administrators
- **Benevolence** – Pray for and wish well the board, the school, and the community it serves

\*BUILDING BETTER BOARDS: A Handbook for Board Members in Catholic Education and BENCHMARKS OF EXCELLENCE: Effective Boards of Catholic Education



DEPARTMENT OF BOARDS AND COUNCILS  
NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION