

As a citizen and a trustee, a Code of Ethics is used to show acceptance of legal and moral commitment as well as responsibility to the College District and its staff in order to represent the public interest in higher education and to provide the best possible education for students.

Each member of the Board of Trustees of Southeastern Illinois College ascribes to the following Code of Ethics.

1. I shall represent all district constituents honestly and equally while refusing to yield responsibilities to any special interest or partisan political groups.
2. I recognize that no Board member has legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a Board meeting.
3. I shall take no private action that might compromise the Board, administration, employees or students.
4. I shall respect the confidentiality of privileged information obtained by me in my position as Board of Trustees member.
5. I shall abide by and uphold the majority decision(s) of the Board, while retaining the right to challenge the reasoning of others when necessary, to seek changes in decisions through ethical and constructive means, and work with fellow Board members in a spirit of cooperation and harmony.
6. I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinions by fellow Board member and others who seek a Board hearing.
7. I shall become knowledgeable concerning local, state, and national issues related to higher education.
8. I recognize the Board's delegation of authority to the President as Chief Executive Officer and restrict Board actions to the duties/responsibilities of the Board as established by Board policy and state statutes.
9. I shall help maintain a Board atmosphere in which controversial issues can be presented fairly, individual dignity is maintained and proper group decorum and individual behavior is preserved.
10. I shall attend meetings regularly, keep informed of the business of the District, remain flexible toward new ideas and accept responsibility for meeting new needs in a changing environment.
11. I shall place the welfare of the College as a whole as the top priority in all Board related participation and decisions relating to programs and personnel.

12. I recognize the need for a strong, active, and constructive Board of Trustees.

13. I shall avoid any conflict of interest or any appearance of impropriety which could result from my position and shall not use my Board of Trustees membership for personal gain or publicity.

The Board of Trustees of Southeastern Illinois College is the official body to examine and decide what constitutes violation of this Code of Ethics and to recommend appropriate action if violations occur. Therefore, if the Trustee is unable to fulfill his/her duties/responsibilities as a Trustee or is unable to adhere to this Code of Ethics as set forth by the Board of Trustees, he/she will resign the Trustee position.

Adopted:  
Amended: July 12, 2016  
Legal Ref: