BRIDGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD CODE OF CONDUCT

Behave professionally and with integrity	The Board member's primary consideration is that the best interests of students is central to their function. Members behave in a manner that will not damage the reputation of the Board, the school or the Department. The Board "speaks as one voice" in the public arena once a decision has been made. Board members are expected to represent the school community. Members do not represent one viewpoint or the view of an individual or for example, political or religious affiliations. Board members therefore regularly seek the views and opinions of the whole school community, especially when policies are being developed. A Board is accountable to both its local school community and the Director General or delegate. A council or board abides by all the relevant legislation and industrial agreements. The Board does not intervene in the control or management of the school - either directly or indirectly.
Create cultural safety	The Board actively creates an environment where people feel culturally safe, where cultural identity is valued and not challenged or denied.
Embrace equity, diversity and inclusion	The Board is reflective of the diversity of the students, families and school community. The council or board values the different characteristics, abilities, strengths and perspectives of all members.
Maintain safety and wellbeing	A Board encourages members to behave in a civil and respectful manner, avoiding discrimination, harassment and bullying. Conflict between Board members is dealt with respectfully and fairly and in a manner that reflects the principles of natural justice. The principal is responsible for ensuring all members maintain all relevant criminal screening.
Maintain accurate records	Minutes will accurately and objectively record actions, events and decisions to ensure transparency and accountability. It is recommended that agendas and minutes be made available to the school community.
Protect official and confidential information	The Board is not an appropriate forum for the discussion of individual school staff, students, parents or other members of the school community. Board members respect the need for confidentiality and privacy with regard to sensitive matters that might arise at council or board meetings, especially where there are matters of a personal nature relating to staff, students or parents. Board members treat discussions relating to individuals with discretion, protecting the confidentiality and privacy of the people involved. If they are approached regarding an operational matter, the parent should be encouraged to speak with the principal or classroom teacher. Matters concerning policy or procedure can be placed on the meeting agenda and approached in a generic sense to protect the privacy of individuals involved.
Behave honestly	Members of the council or board do not engage in dishonest, misleading, fraudulent, or corrupt behaviour.
Declare and manage conflicts of interest	Board members ensure personal or private interests, and those of family or associates, do not conflict with, or influence, their decision making. Board members declare any conflicts of interest when they arise. Board members who have declared a conflict of interest are not entitled to vote on that issue. There is no requirement for Board members who are also current members of Parliament or local government or are planning to nominate as candidates for an election to resign from the Board.