

SUPERINTENDENT CODE OF ETHICS

I. PURPOSE

To outline the code of ethics for the Superintendent of Shelby County Schools

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to the Superintendent and members of the Shelby County Board of Education.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

A Superintendent's professional behavior must conform to an ethical code. The Code must be idealistic and at the same time practical, so that it can apply reasonably to all superintendents. The superintendent acknowledges that the school system belongs to the public and serves for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the superintendent accepts responsibility for providing professional leadership in the school system and community. This responsibility requires the superintendent to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. It must be recognized that the superintendent's actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, Board of Education, professional associates, and students. To these ends, the Superintendent subscribes to the following statements of standards.

ARTICLE I. MY RELATIONS TO THE CHILDREN

Section 1. I will endeavor to provide equal educational opportunities for all children regardless of race, creed, or location of residence.

ARTICLE II. MY RELATIONS TO MY COMMUNITY

- Section 1. I will endeavor to appraise fairly both the present and future educational needs of the community.
- Section 2. I will endeavor to fairly represent the entire educational community under the auspices of Shelby County Schools at all times.
- Section 3. I will endeavor to keep the community informed about the progress and needs of the school system.
- Section 4. I will not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the government.
- Section 5. I will endeavor to pursue appropriate measures to correct those laws, policies, and regulations that are not consistent with sound educational goals.

ARTICLE III. MY RELATIONS TO PERSONNEL

- Section 1. I will not criticize employees publicly, but will make warranted investigations and act only on substantiated evidence.
- Section 2. I will endeavor to support the principle of due process and protect the civil and human rights of all individuals.

ARTICLE IV. MY RELATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Section 1. I will endeavor to implement written policies as adopted by the Board of Education.
- Section 2. I will endeavor to administer the rules and regulations as set forth by the State Department and State Board.

Section 3. I will honor all contracts until fulfillment or release.

Section 4. I will accept the responsibility for results when given full administrative authority and financial support to discharge my professional duties.

ARTICLE V. MY RELATIONS TO MYSELF

Section 1. I will endeavor to maintain the standards and seek to improve the effectiveness of my profession through research and continuing professional development.

Section 2. I will endeavor to avoid using my position for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic, or other influence.

Section 3. I will endeavor to fulfill my professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity.

Legal References:

Cross References:

1. The Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents (TOSS) Policy 1.107 Ethical Standards for Tennessee Superintendents