

## **MOUNT BAKER POLICY 1815**

### **ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

#### **Policy Statement**

Each board director has taken an oath of office to support the Constitutions of the United States and Washington state. The Mount Baker School Board and each of its school directors is committed to upholding the oath of office and to ethical behavior.

Ethical behavior is an individual responsibility. Each school director and the board as a whole will base their conduct on these core ethical principles:

*Objectivity* – School directors must place the public’s interest before any private interest or outside obligation – choices need to be made on the merits.

*Selflessness* – School directors should not take actions or make decisions in the performance of their position in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

*Stewardship* – School directors should conserve public resources and funds against misuse and abuse.

*Transparency* – School directors must practice open and accountable government. They should be as open as possible about their decisions and actions, while protecting truly confidential information.

*Integrity* – School directors should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organizations that might inappropriately influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Failure to adhere to these core ethical principles or failure to comply with other policies adopted by the board or the law may result in the school board taking formal censure of the offending school director in accordance with **1825 – Addressing School Board Director Violations**.

#### Cross Reference:

MB Policy 1111	Oath of Office
MB Policy 1220	Board Officers and Duties of Board Members
MB Policy 1610	Conflicts of Interest
MB Policy 1825	Addressing School Board Director Violations
MB Policy 5271	Reporting Improper Governmental Action

#### Legal References:

RCW 28A.320.040	Bylaws for board and school government
RCW 28A.635.050	Certain corrupt practices of school officials
RCW 42.20	Misconduct of Public Officers

#### Management Resources:

*Policy & Legal News*, October 2021

Adoption Date: 4.27.23

Mount Baker School District

Classification: Discretionary

Revised Dates: