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Board Member Code of Ethics

As a member of the board of directors, I will:

- Support fellow board members for their opinions, in or out of the boardroom.
- Avoid using the organization for my personal advantage or that of my friends or relatives.
- Maintain the confidentiality of the proceedings of the board outside the boardroom.
- Make no promises on how I will vote on any issue before a meeting.
- Refrain from interfering with the duties of the administrator or undermine his/her authority with staff members.

As a member of the board of directors, I will:

- Listen carefully to other board members
- Respect the opinion of my fellow board members.
- Respect and support the majority decision of the board.
- Recognize that all authority is vested in the full board only when it meets in a legal session.
- Keep well-informed about developments relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- Participate actively in board meetings and actions.
- Bring to the attention of the board any issues that I believe will have an adverse effect on the organization or those we serve.
- Refer complaints to the proper level of the chain of command.
- Recognize that my job is to ensure that the organization is well managed, not to manage the organization.
- Represent all those whom this organization serves and not a particular special interest group.
- Consider myself a “trustee” of the organization and do my best to ensure that it is well-maintained, financially secure, and always operating in the best interest of those we serve.
- Complete the required minimum of two hours education training annually as stated in Education Law 26-d as added by Chapter 468 of the Laws of 2021.
- Declare conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the board, and abstain from voting when appropriate.

Signature _____ Date _____

Adopted by the Newark Public Library Board of Trustees on July 10, 2014

Amended on 3/9/2023

Reviewed by Policy Committee on 2/28/2023