

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct

Each Board of Education member, before taking their seat on the Board, shall take the following oath of office:

I, (name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education of Skokie School District 73 1/2, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further swear (or affirm) that:

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the School District's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board meeting;

I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels;

As part of the Board of Education, I shall accept the responsibility for my role in the equitable and quality education of every student in the School District;

I shall foster with the Board, extensive participation of the community, formulate goals, define outcomes, and set the course for Skokie School District 73.5;

I shall assist in establishing a structure and an environment designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to attain their maximum potential through a sound organizational framework;

I shall strive to ensure a continuous assessment of student achievement and all conditions affecting the education of our children, in compliance with State law;

I shall serve as education's key advocate on behalf of students and our community's school (or schools) to advance the vision for *(name of School District)*; and

I shall strive to work together with the District Superintendent to lead the School District toward fulfilling the vision the Board has created, fostering excellence for every student in the areas of academic skills, knowledge, citizenship, and personal development.

Each Board member who is taking office shall read the oath during an open meeting and swear or affirm to follow it as indicated in the oath.

The Board adopts the Illinois Association of School Boards' *Code of Conduct for Members of School Boards (Code)*. A copy of the *Code* shall be displayed in the regular Board meeting room.

A board member who fails to abide by the oath of office or the *Code* may be subject to action by the Board, including, but not limited to, formal censure and/or referral to the appropriate Intermediate

Service Center Executive Director for removal from office under Board policy 2:60, *Board Member Removal from Office*.

LEG. REF:

105 ILCS 5/10-16.5.

CROSS REF.:1:30 (School District Philosophy), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 2:50 (Board Member Term of Office), 2:60 (Board Member Removal from Office), 2:100 (Board Member Conflict of Interest), 2:105 (Ethics and Gift Ban), 2:210 (Organizational Board of Education Meeting)

Adopted: September 9, 2025

Skokie SD 73.5
