



# NORTH ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL BOARD CODE OF CONDUCT 2019

### Code of Conduct for Members of North Albany SHS, School Board (The Board):

- The primary consideration is that the school's values are in the best interests of students.
- The Board abides by all the relevant legislation and industrial agreements.
- The Board is accountable to both its local school community and the Director General.
- The Board will encourage members to behave in a civil and respectful manner, avoiding discrimination, harassment and bullying.
- The underlying principles of the Board's code of conduct include the promotion of:
  - **respectful** partnerships;
  - clear and **honest** two-way communication;
  - **transparent** processes;
  - **democratic**, informed decision making; and
  - personal and professional **integrity**.
- Conflict between Board members is dealt with respectfully and fairly and in a manner that reflects the principles of natural justice.
- 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.
- Board members are expected to represent the school community. Members do not represent one viewpoint or the view of an individual. Board members seek the views and opinions of the whole school community when appropriate as determined by the board.
- Board members respect the need for confidentiality and privacy with regard to sensitive matters that might arise at council meetings, especially where there are matters of a personal nature relating to staff, students or parents.
- The Board is not an appropriate forum for the discussion of individual school staff, students, parents or other members of the school community.
- A Board member who is approached by a parent with a concern relating to an individual is in a privileged position and is expected to treat such discussion with discretion, protecting the confidentiality and privacy of the people involved. If the issue relates to a curriculum matter, the parent is to be encouraged to speak with the classroom teacher or Head of Learning Area. If the issue relates to an operational matter of the school, the parent is to be encouraged to speak with the deputy principal or principal. If the issue relates to a school policy, it is put on the agenda and approached in a generic sense to protect the privacy of individuals involved.
- The Board "speaks as one voice" in the public arena once a decision has been made.
- Board members actively participate in sub-committees and meetings as the need arises.
- If Board members are unable to attend a meeting, they are requested to submit an apology before the meeting.
- Continuity of Board membership requires regular attendance. Following more than two consecutive absences Board membership may be reviewed.