



# DRYDEN

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 88  
Dryden, NY 13053  
Main Office (607) 844-8694  
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FAX (607) 844-4733

## DRYDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-2021 School Board Member Protocol

In the interest of effective governance and for the purpose of enhancing teamwork among members of the board and between the board and administration, we, the members of the Dryden Central School Board, do hereby publicly commit ourselves collectively and individually to the following operating protocol:

1. **Mission:** Educate and empower each learner to achieve excellence and build a better world.
  
2. **Goals:** The board will set clear goals for themselves and the superintendent, with yearly evaluations. The board and superintendent will set clear goals for the Dryden Central School District. Such goals will cohere with the mission and strategic plans of the district.
  
3. **Practice the governance role:** The board will not become involved in the management of the schools. The board will emphasize planning, policy-making, and district-communication by recognizing:
  - The Superintendent is the chief executive officer and makes recommendations, proposals or suggestions on most matters that come before the board.
  - Individual board members do not have the authority to take unilateral action. Only the board as a whole has authority. The board president serves as the official spokesperson for the board and will communicate the position(s) of the board.
  - Every board member has the same right as parents or school district residents to visit the schools in accordance with whatever district procedures apply to the public in general. Individual board members may visit the school for official purposes with board permission.
  - Requests for information should be done through the superintendent and/or the BOE president.
  - Adhering to the chain of command. Refer constituents and staff to the person who can properly and judiciously address the issue.
  
4. **Lead by Example:**
  - Debate the issues and not one another. While we encourage debate and different points of view, we do it with care and respect. Presume positive intentions by all stakeholders.
  - If a board member would like an item placed on an agenda, this should be requested during “Future Discussion Items” at a BOE meeting.
  - Executive session will be held for appropriate subjects and BOE members will be extremely sensitive to the legal ramifications of their meetings and comments. Executive session is permitted only for a limited number of specific purposes that include the following subjects:



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- a. Matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
  - b. Any matter that may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
  - c. Information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed.
  - d. Discussions involving proposed, pending, or current litigation.
  - e. Collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.
  - f. The medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.
  - g. The preparation, grading, or administration of exams.
  - h. The proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition, sale, or exchange of securities, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value of these things (Pub. Off. Law § 105 (a-h)).
- The BOE president and superintendent will determine adequate time for agenda items to be considered and discussed. BOE members who require additional information or have questions should contact the BOE president and/or the superintendent prior to the meeting.

5. **Correspondence:** All BOE members should maintain their official email address and should check email on a regular basis. The board agrees that email will be used principally for information sharing and not for group discussion, debate or opinion.