

*CENTRAL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

**“Central City Public Schools will educate, challenge, and prepare students with lifelong skills for the world around them”**

As members of the Central City Public Schools Board of Education, we are committed to the following principles to help educate the youth of this community.

**Board Principle #1: Responsibility**

- It is the responsibility of Central City Public Schools to provide EVERY child with a quality education.
- As the Board of Education, we commit to operating with integrity, and ethics will guide our decision-making.
- We dedicate ourselves to provide inspiration and support for each other and to be genuine, honest, and trustworthy.

**Board Principle #2: Educational Advocacy**

- We will advocate for every student to maximize their educational opportunities within fiscal limitations.
- We believe that the most important responsibility of the leadership team is to ensure the education of our youth.
- We will communicate the importance of education district-wide and within the community.
- We will allocate the resources necessary to provide high quality programs, facilities, and staff to our students.
- We will require accountability of the Board of Education and all district personnel.

**Board Principle #3: Leadership & Leadership Development**

- We will utilize administrative and instructional staff, along with the community to develop a shared vision for high quality education for all students.
- We will value all voices to create a culture that values critical thinking, mutual respect, and collaboration amongst the Board of Education, administration, staff, and community.
- We will gather adequate information from administration to make informed decisions.

**Board Principle #4: Relationships**

- We will seek the positive contributions of each board member.
- We will seek ways to foster positive, professional relationships.
- We will listen first and speak second.
- We will refrain from negativity.
- We will create an environment of mutual trust for the productive exchange of ideas.

**Board Principle #5: Communications**

- We believe that effective communication requires a high level of trust.
- We will have an open and honest communication with our district and community and we will strive to preserve the integrity of Board processes and decisions.
- We will follow the proper chain of command.
- Information permitted by statute to be discussed in executive discussion will remain confidential. Sharing of such information will be considered unacceptable.
- We will operate on the premises that no one (Superintendent, Board of Education, Administration, etc.) will be surprised during meetings. Surprising others is disrespectful and we will respect those that we work with.

**Board Principle #6: Response to Concerns**

- We will listen to concerns and provide guidance as to the proper chain of command. It is acceptable to check back with the individual in regard to a resolution.
- Criticism of individuals in the district should not be communicated personally to them and should not be aired in open meetings. The Superintendent shall be informed of concerns.

**Board Principle #7: Decision Making, Goal Setting, Accountability**

- We will develop synergy and work towards collaboration of stakeholders.
- We will develop ongoing policy review.
- We will develop ongoing review of our curriculum and plan for future needs of students.
- We, as individuals, will be accountable to the Board for our actions.
- We will gather pertinent facts concerning issues.
- We will develop multiple options, which include potential impact on finance, facilities, and staff.
- We will respect the professional expertise of district staff as necessary for the operation of an effective district.
- We will support decisions and its effective implementation.

**Board Principle #8: Format of Meetings**

- We will follow Board Policy and statutory laws regulating all open meetings of the Board of Education.
- We will develop meeting agendas cooperatively between the Superintendent and Board President.
- We will recognize student, staff, and district successes.
- We will commit to Board “work sessions” to work to be an effective Board of Education that has a solid understanding of the district and the district processes. We will commit to a yearly Board “Retreat” to establish operating principles, improve communication, set goals for the Board of Education, and to strategically plan for the future.