

Appalachian Regional Library Board
Ethics Statement
Approved 9-17-2020

Board members shall observe ethical standards with absolute trust, integrity, and honor.

Board members must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues, or the situation. It is incumbent upon any board member to disqualify himself/herself immediately whenever the appearance of a conflict of interest appears. (See the Conflict of Interest Policy.)

Board members must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of the institution, acknowledging the formal position of the board even if they personally disagree.

A board member must respect the confidential nature of library business while being aware of and in compliance with applicable laws governing freedom of information.

Board members must be prepared to support to the fullest the efforts of librarians in resisting inappropriate censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.

Board members who accept library board responsibilities are expected to perform all of the functions of board members.

To preserve and uphold the library's reputation as an organization of unimpeachable integrity, each Board member will sign the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Ethics Statement at the beginning of each calendar year (or at the commencement of service) during his or her tenure with the library.