

Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct

The purpose of the Oregon School Facilities Management Association is to promote and foster the highest degree of professionalism in the planning, development, maintenance, and operation of school facilities, and to strengthen the quality and efficiency of maintenance and operations through professional management. Persons engaged in the school maintenance and operations profession must recognize the magnitude of responsibility inherent in their type of work. Developing and maintaining the highest ethical conduct is essential for generating the respect and confidence of students, parents, school staff, and the public, towards our profession. The Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct provide standards by which to judge that conduct.

Code of Ethics

An OSFMA member's professional behavior must conform to an ethical code. The code must be idealistic and at the same time practical so that it can apply reasonably to all members. The member acknowledges that schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the member assumes responsibility for providing professional leadership in the school and community. This responsibility requires the member to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. It must be recognized that the member's actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, professional associates and students. To these ends, the member subscribes to the following standards.

The member will:

1. Promote and develop the highest degree of professionalism in the planning, safety, and operations of school facilities.
2. Ensure student success through safe, healthy, and effective learning environments.
3. Behave in a professional and ethical manner at all times.
4. Fulfill professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity.
5. Support the principle of due process and protect the civil and human rights of all individuals.
6. Obey local, state and national laws and does not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the government.
7. Implement the policies and administrative rules and regulations of their school's governing body.
8. Pursue appropriate measures to modify those laws, rules, and regulations which are determined by the Association to be not in the best interest of safe, efficient, and economical operations.
9. Avoid using positions for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic, or other influences.
10. Maintain the standards and seeks to improve the effectiveness of the profession through research and continuing professional development.
11. Honor all contracts until fulfillment or release.

Professional Standards

The Association discharges its obligation of leadership and service to its members by establishing appropriate standards of behavior. In relationships within the schools the members will:

1. Support the goals and objectives of the employing school system.
2. Interpret school policies and practices to the community fairly and objectively.
3. Implement, to the best of the member's ability, school policies and administrative regulations.
4. Assist fellow members in fulfilling their obligations.
5. Portray a positive image of the Association.
6. Refrain from publicly criticizing board members, members, or other employees.
7. Assist colleagues in achieving their maximum potential.

When conducting business on behalf of the school, the member will:

1. Conduct business honestly, openly, and with integrity.
2. Avoid conflict of interest situations by not conducting business with a company or firm in which the member or any member of the member's family has a vested interest.
3. Avoid preferential treatment of one outside interest group, company, or individual over another.
4. Uphold the dignity and decorum of the office.
5. Avoid using the position for personal gain.
6. Never accept or offer illegal payment for services rendered.
7. Never accept gifts, free services, or anything of value for or because of any act performed or withheld.
8. Refrain from soliciting contributions from subordinates or outside sources for gifts or donations to a superior.

In relationships with colleagues and others, members will:

1. Support the actions of a colleague whenever possible, never publicly criticizing or censuring the member.
2. Offer assistance and/or guidance when help is requested.
3. Support appropriate professional associations aimed at improving operations management and encourage colleagues to do likewise.
4. Accept leadership roles and responsibilities when appropriate.