

## Board Member Ethics

As a member of the Adams Public Library System Board of Trustees I will:

- Listen carefully to the board members, who are my teammates.
- Respect the opinion of other board members.
- Respect and support the majority decisions of the board.
- Recognize that all authority is vested in the board when it meets in legal session and not with individual board members.
- Keep well-informed of developments that are relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- Participate actively in board meetings and actions.
- Call to the attention of the board any issues that I believe will have an adverse effect on the library.
- Attempt to interpret the needs of the community to the library and interpret the action of the library to the community.
- Refer complaints about the library to the director.
- Recognize that the board member's job is to ensure that the library is well-managed, not to manage the library.
- Vote to hire the best possible person to manage the library.
- Represent the whole community to the library and not a particular area or group.
- Do my best to ensure that the library is well maintained, financially secure, continuously improving and always operating in the best interests of the community.
- Always work to learn more about the board member's job and how to do a better job.
- Declare any conflict of interests between my personal life and my position on the library board and avoid voting on issues that appear to be a conflict of interests.

As a member of the library board I will not:

- Be critical, in or outside of the board meeting, of fellow board members or their opinions.
- Use any part of the library for my personal advantage or the personal advantage of my friends or relatives.
- Discuss the confidential proceedings of the board outside the board meeting.
- Promise prior to a meeting how I will vote on any issue in the meeting.
- Interfere with the duties of the director or undermine the director's authority.

Adopted by the APLS Board of Trustees  
October 28, 2008  
Reviewed each December