

**PEQUANNOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CODE OF ETHICS**

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Pequannock Public Library are accountable for the resources of the Library and to ensure that the Library provides the best possible service to our community. In the interest of transparency and setting the framework of expectations within which the Board of Trustees will operate, the members of the Pequannock Public Library Board of Trustees hereby agree to abide by the following standards of ethical conduct:

1. Each Trustee makes a personal commitment to contribute the time and energy to faithfully carry out his/her duties and responsibilities effectively and with absolute truth, honor and integrity.
2. All Trustees shall respect the opinions of their colleagues and not be critical or disrespectful when they disagree or oppose a viewpoint different than their own.
3. All Trustees shall comply with all the laws, rules and regulations that apply to them and to the Library.
4. All Trustees, in fulfilling their responsibilities, shall not be swayed by partisan interests, public pressure or fear of criticism.
5. All Trustees shall not engage in discrimination of any kind and shall uphold Library patrons' rights to privacy in the use of Library resources.
6. All Trustees shall at all times distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of the Library, acknowledging and supporting the formal position of the Board of Trustees even if they disagree.
7. All Trustees shall respect the confidential nature of Library business and not disclose such information to anyone. Trustees must not divulge information learned during executive sessions of the Board or any information regarding future Board plans or actions until such action is officially taken. Trustees must also be aware of and act in compliance with the Open Public Records Act and the Open Public Meetings Act, agree to act on their own and to ensure the Library's and the Board's compliance with these freedom of information laws.
8. All Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained as a result of their position or access to privileged Library information, for either themselves, their immediate family members, or others.
9. Each Trustee shall immediately disqualify him/herself whenever the appearance of or a conflict of interest exists.
10. Each Trustee shall not use his/her position to gain unwarranted privileges or advantages for him/herself, immediate family or others from the Library or from

those who do business with the Library.

11. All Trustees shall not interfere with the management responsibilities of the Library Director or the supervision of Library staff.
12. All Trustees shall support the efforts of librarians in resisting censorship of Library materials by groups or individuals and in protecting the First Amendment Rights of all Library users and staff.
13. All Trustees shall conduct themselves in compliance with the requirements of the New Jersey Local Government Ethics Law N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.1 et seq., and adopted regulations under the Law.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Pequannock Public Library on November 20, 2024