WadsworthLibrary

CODE OF ETHICS

Wadsworth Library Ethics Statement for Library Trustees

Wadsworth Library Board of Trustees are accountable for the resources of the Library as well as to see that the Library provides the best possible service to its community. Every Trustee makes a personal commitment to contribute the time and energy to faithfully carry out their duties and responsibilities effectively and with absolute truth, honor, and integrity.

- 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.
- Trustees shall comply with all the laws, rules, policies, and regulations that apply to them and to the Library.
- Trustees, in fulfilling their responsibilities, shall not be swayed by partisan interests, public pressure, or fear of criticism.
- Trustees shall not engage in discrimination of any kind and shall uphold library patrons' rights to privacy in the use of library resources.
- Trustees must 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 even if they disagree.
- Trustees must respect the confidential nature of Library business and not disclose such information to anyone. Trustees must also be aware of and in compliance with laws that increase transparency.
- 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 or others.
- A Trustee shall immediately disqualify themselves whenever the appearance of or a conflict of interest exists.
- Trustees shall not use their position to gain unwarranted privileges or advantages for themselves or others from the Library or from those who do business with the Library.
- Trustees shall not interfere with the management responsibilities of the Director or the supervision of Library staff.

Trustees shall support the efforts of the Library in resisting censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.

Signature_____Date_____

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Wadsworth Library, August 2006
Adopted by the Board of Directors of the American Library Trustee Association (a division of the American Library Association), July 1985 and amended, July 1988
Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Public Library Association, July 1985 and approval of amendment, January 1989
Reviewed by Board of Trustees on April 14, 2018
Reviewed by Board of Trustees on November 14, 2024