



ROCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD COMPACT

Approved by the Rochester Public Library Board of Trustees on July 17, 2024

I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations that pertain to the City of Rochester and the Rochester Public Library. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

I will make decisions in terms of the welfare of the community and will seek to develop and maintain a public library that meets the needs of all citizens without regard to age, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, status with regard to public assistance, and membership or activity in a local commission.

I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them and hear and discuss facts about the above actions.

I will conduct myself in a professional manner at all times, showing respect for colleagues and encouraging an open and productive environment. I will encourage, enable and respect the participation and contributions of fellow board members.

I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the library, but, together with my fellow Board Members, to see that it is well run.

I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Trustees and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.

I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the library for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the library which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the library. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its library.

I will refer all complaints to the director.

I understand that the Board makes decisions as a team. Individual board members may not commit the Board to any action.

I recognize that decisions are made by a majority vote and should be supported by all board members, and I will respect the right of other board members to express and have opinions and ideas that differ.

The board president or his/her designee will be the spokesperson for the Board. Any formal inquiries to board members should be directed to the Board President. The Board President must notify the Head of Marketing and Community Engagement of any media requests.