

**Fort Edward Free Library
Policy Manual
Ethics Policy For Trustees**

Trustees shall observe ethical standards with absolute truth, integrity and honor.

Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues, or the situation.

Whenever the appearance of or a conflict of interest exists, it is incumbent upon any trustee to disqualify himself/herself immediately.

Trustees must distinguish clearly in their actions and statements between their personal philosophies and attitudes and those of the institution, acknowledging the formal position of the board even if they personally disagree.

A trustee must respect the confidential nature of library business while being aware of and in compliance with applicable laws governing freedom of information.

Trustees must be prepared to support to the fullest the efforts of librarians in resisting censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.

Trustees who accept library board responsibilities are expected to perform all the functions of library trustees.

Adopted January 14, 2015