



## Statement of Ethics for Library Trustees

### I. Purpose

Hiawatha Public Library trustees are accountable for the resources of the library as well as to see that the library provides the best service possible to the community. Every trustee makes a personal commitment to contribute the time and energy to faithfully carry out duties.

### II. Guiding Principles

- A. Trustees shall uphold the integrity of the Hiawatha Public Library and shall perform their duties impartially and diligently.
- B. Trustees shall not engage in discrimination of any kind including that based on race, class, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or belief system.
- C. Trustees shall protect and uphold the confidential nature of library business and library patrons' right to privacy in their use of the library's resources.
- D. Trustees shall avoid situations in which their personal interests, activities or financial affairs are, or are likely to be perceived as being in conflict with the best interests of the Hiawatha Public Library.
- E. Trustees shall 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.
- F. Trustees shall not knowingly act in any way that would reasonably be expected to create an impression among the public that they are engaged in conduct that violates their trust as board members
- G. Trustees shall not use or attempt to use their position with the Hiawatha Public Library to obtain unwarranted privileges or advantages for themselves or others.
- H. Trustees shall not be swayed by partisan interests, public pressure, or fear of criticism.

- I. Trustees shall not denigrate the organization or fellow board members or employees in any public arena.
- J. Trustees shall comply with all the laws, rules, and regulations that apply to them or to their library.
- K. Trustees shall not interfere with the management responsibilities of the director or the supervision of the library staff.
- L. Trustees shall support the efforts of librarians in resisting censorship of library materials by groups or individuals.

Adopted Mar 8, 2022