

# African-American/Caribbean Education Association, Inc.

(AACEAINC)

## CODE OF ETHICS

OF THE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*As Board Members of the African-American/Caribbean Education Association, Inc., we recognize the importance of making known to this membership, the community that we serve, and the general public, the ethical principles that guide the work of the Board of Directors.*

*When and if, Ethical dilemmas should occur as values are in conflict, this Code of Ethics states the values to which the BOARD is committed; and embodies the responsibilities this BOARD is committed to undertake. The Code of Ethics is expressed in broad statements to guide ethical decision-making and provides a framework.*

### **The Code of Ethics envelops governance for the following areas of concern:**

- Professional standards to administer and implement AACEAINC programs/endeavors/projects
- Pledges commitment, integrity, and performance of duties
- Purports partnerships with stakeholders entrusted to the well-being and education of African-American and Caribbean children
- Purports education, politics, and cultural advocacy for the enrichment of the community and our mission "to better the education of our children"

We feel a special obligation to provide and ensure the "free flow" of **enlightenment** to present and future generations. We, the Board of Directors, of the African-American/Caribbean Education Association, Inc., pledge the highest standards of excellence and recognize:

I. That our community has entrusted us with further growth and development of our children, knowing that all our children can learn if properly prepared.

II. That the future welfare of this nation, of this state, and that of our community depends in large part upon the quality of education provided to our children, especially those attending public school.

III. That this organization will take the initiative in helping African-American and Caribbean people, and the disenfranchised, to learn the facts about their children's schools, supplemental educational services, various instructional programs, voter registration/education, civics, and parent engagement issues to the end that they will be readily provided with the finest educational services and community awareness available.

IV. That the mission of *enlightenment* shall be accomplished by fostering and implementing the workings of the Education, Cultural, and Politics Committees.

V. That we must never neglect our personal obligations to this membership and the African-American/Caribbean community, understanding that we have a moral and civic obligation, to work and partner with stakeholders that can assist, supplement, enhance, and strengthen educational services and quality of life issues that impact our community and children—these are students that are not only under-served, low-achieving and high risk, but students with special needs including the gifted and talented.

VI. That our community has entrusted us with the development of meaningful and substantive programs to provide/supplement/implement academics, the arts, parent empowerment, health awareness, and enrichment of every kind, that is comprehensive of our cultural heritage, immigrant education, literacy and citizenship education programs.

***In view of the foregoing considerations, it shall be the constant endeavor of each Board of Director:***

- 1) To practice courteous professional relationships exercising respect, fairness and good will.
- 2) To work with fellow board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation.
- 3) To advocate conditions that safeguards the rights and welfare of all in our service.
- 4) To resist and refuse any outside pressure to benefit any individual, agency, or private interest at the expense of AACEAINC, directors and/or colleagues.
- 5) To distinguish between our personal convictions and professional duties to prevent personal beliefs from interfering with fair representation of the aims, goals, objectives, and purposes of AACEAINC and mission.
- 6) To strive for excellence as professionals by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, encouraging professional development, fostering the aspirations and potential of future teachers/educators and members of AACEAINC.
- 7) To base personal decisions upon all available facts in each situation and to vote honest convictions in every case; thereafter, for each member to abide by and uphold the final decision.
- 8) To safeguard and protect confidentiality, at such times as deemed necessary, and when appropriate.
- 9) To bear in mind under all circumstances that the primary function of the Board of Directors is to establish and follow all policies, procedures, guidelines, regulations, codes and requirements put forth by AACEAINC in accordance with the Bylaws , Articles of Incorporation of the State of New York, and any governmental regulatory agencies.