



t, in itself, a defense to a charge of unethical conduct;

2. Knowing and upholding the procedure of personal views;
 3. Holding oneself responsible for ethical conduct;
 4. Monitoring and maintaining sound professional services of any professional assignment that may interfere with work-related duties;
 5. Refraining from professional or personal activities that harm the community;
 6. Avoiding the use of one's position for personal gain;
 7. Taking responsibility and credit for one's own contributions and those made by others.
- B. The professional educator fulfills the following duties:
1. Confronting and taking reasonable

2. Upholding parents'/guardians' legal rights, as well as any legal requirements to reveal information related to legitimate concerns for the well-being of a student; and
3. Protecting the confidentiality of student records and releasing personal data in accordance with prescribed state and federal laws and local policies.

Principle IV: Responsibility to the School Community

The professional educator promotes positive relationships and effective interactions among members of the school community, while maintaining professional boundaries.

- A. The professional educator promotes effective and appropriate relationships with parents/guardians by:
 1. Communicating with parents/guardians in a timely and respectful manner that represents the students' best interests;
 2. Demonstrating a commitment to equality, equity, and inclusion as well as respecting and accommodating diversity among members of the school community;
 3. Considering the implication of accepting gifts from or giving gifts to parents/guardians; and
 4. Maintaining appropriate confidentiality with respect to student information disclosed by or to parents/guardians unless required by law.
- B. The professional educator promotes effective and appropriate relationships with colleagues
 1. Respecting colleagues as fellow professionals and maintaining civility when differences arise;
 2. Resolving conflicts, whenever, possible, privately and respectfully and in accordance with district policy
 3. Keeping student safety, education, and health paramount by maintaining and sharing educational records appropriately and objectively in accordance with local policies and state and federal laws;
 4. Collaborating with colleagues in a manner that supports academic achievement and related goals that promote best interests of students;
 5. Enhancing the professional growth and development of new educators by supporting effective field experiences mentoring or induction activities across the career continuum;
 6. Ensuring that educators who are assigned to participate as mentors for new educators, cooperating teachers, or other teacher leadership positions are prepared and supervised to assume these roles;
 7. Ensuring that educators are assigned to positions in accordance with their educational credentials, preparation, experience in order to maximize students' opportunities and achievement; and
 8. Working to ensure a workplace environment that is free from harassment
- C. The professional educator promotes effective and appropriate relationships with the community and other stakeholders by:
 1. Advocating for policies and laws that the educator supports as promoting the education and well-being of students and families;
 2. Collaborating with community agencies, organizations, and individuals in order to advance students' interests without regard to personal reward or remuneration; and
 3. Maintaining the highest professional standards of accuracy, honesty, and appropriate disclosure of information when representing the school or district within the community and in public communications.
- D. The professional educator promotes effective and appropriate relationships with employers by:
 1. Using property, facilities, materials, and resources in accordance with local policies and state and federal laws;
 2. Respecting intellectual property ownership rights (e.g. original lesson plans, district level curricula, syllabi, gradebooks, etc.) when sharing materials;
 3. Exhibiting personal and professional conduct that is in the best interest of the organization, learning community, school community, and profession; and
 4. Considering the implications of offering or accepting gifts and/preferential treatment by vendors or an individual in a position of professional influence or power.
- E. The Professional educator understands the problematic nature of multiple relationships by:
 1. Considering the risks that multiple relationships might impair objectivity and increase the likelihood of harm to students' learning and well-being or diminish educator effectiveness;
 2. Considering the risks and benefits of a professional relationship with someone with whom the educator has had past personal relationship and vice versa;

3. Considering the implications and possible ramifications of engaging in a personal or professional relationship with parents and guardians, student teachers, colleagues, and supervisors; and
4. Ensuring that professional responsibilities to paraprofessionals, student teachers, or interns do not interfere with responsibilities to students, their learning, and well-being.

Principle V: Responsible and Ethical Use of Technology

The professional educator considers the impact of consuming, creating, distributing and communicating information through all technologies. The ethical educator is vigilant to ensure appropriate boundaries of time, place and role are maintained when using electronic communication.

- A. The professional educator uses technology in a responsible manner by:
 1. Using social media responsibly, transparently, and primarily for purposes of teaching and learning per school and district policy. The professional educator considers the ramifications of using social media and direct communication via technology on one's interactions with students, colleagues, and the general public;