

Code of Ethics

Preamble

Education is the fundamental structure amongst what society is built upon. This educational system itself is what allows for the growth and constant change we see within our nation. The heart of this system is the educator. It is these individuals that except responsibility for the roots of this system. The educator thrives upon building principles that develop this democratic society. The educator holds the key to unlocking the door for this process. The educator has full ethical responsibility for not only their students, but also their colleagues, administration, and community. With this, there comes a code of ethics that is a hidden law within society. It is a necessary standard that each educator must aspire to become. For it is this code, that brings opportunity, honor, and excellence to each member of society who seeks it.

Principle I

Dedication to the Student

It is the responsibility of the educator to build upon a student's strengths. It is the educator's job to help process the student's thoughts, and build knowledge that will in turn lead them to becoming meaningful members of society. To ensure the success of each student, the educator will:

1. Engage the student in meaningful lessons, including real-world applications that pertain to the subject matter.
2. Set standards and goals so that each student is given the opportunity to grow.
3. Differentiate instruction to challenge and accommodate the needs of each individual student.
4. Consider each thought and opinion from each student as an opportunity to enhance the lessons being taught.
5. Think about the feelings of each student, to ensure that the classroom is a place that all students will desire to go.
6. Ensure a safe environment where conditions are optimal for learning.
7. Act appropriately with students leading by example and showing professionalism.

Principle II

Dedication towards Profession and Practices

The educator is trusted by the educational system and society to continually strive towards excellence. The educator must constantly put forth effort to raise standards, and excel in the profession. They must create an atmosphere for learning that emphasizes best practices. To ensure a quality education, the educator will:

1. Continue professional growth each year to improve upon teaching practices.
2. Continue to seek new methods of teaching subject material.
3. Teach using a variety of methods (e.g. lecture, hands-on, peer-to-peer, etc...)
4. Be prepared with educational lessons each day that associate to subject matter and standards.
5. Resemble a professional demeanor in and out of the classroom.
6. Respect views and ideas of those in the environment.
7. Comply with the rules and expectations that are set.

Principle III***Dedication towards Colleagues***

Education is built through teamwork. It is imperative that all educators work together to build an atmosphere that creates an ideal environment for learning. Each educator has something they can offer to help build upon the educational system. To ensure that there is unity amongst colleagues, the educator will:

1. Share knowledge and ideas to help build upon classroom practices.
2. Respect thoughts, opinions, and concerns expressed by members of the faculty.
3. Be honest and truthful towards everyone, including the educational system.
4. Mentor introductory teachers in the process of being an educator.

Principle IV

Dedication towards Administration

The administration is the core to the educational system. It is the administration that dictates what should and should not be done in a building or district. They set expectations, rules, and requirements that are in the best interests of the educational system. To ensure that the administration enhances the already implemented learning environment, the educator will:

1. Carry out reasonable instructions and duties given by the administration.
2. Get involved in the decision making when issues are being discussed.
3. Take ideas and thoughts, and build upon them to create a strong work environment.
4. Voice their opinion so that all views can be analyzed when making a school or district decision.

Principle V***Dedication towards Parents and Community***

The educator has a duty to keep parents and community members informed and involved with the educational process. They will work together to build upon a goal that suits the best practices for the students. To ensure cooperation amongst parents and the community, the educator will:

1. Keep parents informed on the progress and performance of their student, and that of the classroom environment.
2. Communicate, and give professional advice to parents in a manner that is in the best interest of the pupil.
3. Hear the thoughts and ideas of parents and community members to help build upon their own best practices.
4. Recognize and respect the diversity in the community, and incorporate that into their teachings.
5. Be active within the community, giving students the opportunity to get involved.