

MIDDLETOWN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Exhibit 4119.21-E(1): Professional Standards

Original Adopted Date: 1/17/2024

CODE OF ETHICS OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION

Preamble

The educator, believing in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizes the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurturing of democratic principles. Essential to these goals is the protection of freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal educational opportunity for all. The educator accepts the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards.

The educator recognizes the magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the teaching process. The desire for the respect and confidence of one's colleagues, of students, of parents, and of the members of the community provides the incentive to attain and maintain the highest possible degree of ethical conduct. The Code of Ethics of the Education Profession indicates the aspiration of all educators and provides standards by which to judge conduct.

Principle I. Commitment to the Student

The educator strives to help each student realize his/her potential as a worthy and effective member of society. The educator therefore works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the educator:

1. Shall not unreasonably restrain the student from independent action in the pursuit of learning
2. Shall not unreasonably deny the student access to varying points of view
3. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress
4. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety
5. Shall not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or disparagement
6. Shall not on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, national origin, marital status, political or religious beliefs, family, social, or cultural background, or sexual orientation, unfairly:
 - a. Exclude any student from participation in any program
 - b. Deny benefits to any student
 - c. Grant any advantage to any student
7. Shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage

8. Shall not disclose information in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law

Principle II. Commitment to the Profession

The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service.

In the belief that the quality of the services of the education profession directly influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, to promote a climate that encourages the exercise of professional judgment, to achieve conditions that attract persons worthy of the trust to careers in education, and to assist in preventing the practice of the profession by unqualified persons.

In fulfillment of the obligation of the profession, the educator:

1. Shall not in any application for a professional position deliberately make a false statement or fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and qualifications
2. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications
3. Shall not assist any entry into the profession of a person known to be unqualified in respect to character, education, or other relevant attribute
4. Shall not knowingly make a false statement concerning the qualifications of a candidate for a professional position
5. Shall not assist a noneducator in the unauthorized practice of teaching
6. Shall not disclose information about colleagues obtained in the course of professional service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law
7. Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague
8. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or action

Source: National Education Association, 1975

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State

5 CCR 80303

5 CCR 80331-80338

Ed. Code 200-262.4

Ed. Code 44050

Ed. Code 44242.5

Description

Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct

Rules of conduct for professional educators

[Prohibition of discrimination](#)

[Employee code of conduct; interaction with students](#)

[Reports and review of alleged misconduct](#)

Ed. Code 48980

[Parent/Guardian notifications](#)

Pen. Code 11164-11174.4

[Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act](#)

Management Resources

Description

Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Publication

California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders,
February 2014

Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Publication

California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP),
October 2009

Council of Chief State School Officers
Publication

Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, 2015

National Education Association
Publication

Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, 1975

Website

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Website

[Council of Chief State School Officers](#)

Website

[California Federation of Teachers](#)

Website

[California School Employees Association](#)

Website

[California Teachers Association](#)

Website

[Commission on Teacher Credentialing](#)

Website

[WestEd](#)

Website

[Association of California School Administrators](#)

Website

[California Department of Education](#)

Website

[CSBA](#)

WestEd Publication

Moving Leadership Standards into Everyday Work:
Descriptions of Practice, 2003

Cross References

Code

Description

0200

[Goals For The School District](#)

0410

[Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities](#)

1113

[District And School Websites](#)

1113

[District And School Websites](#)

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[District And School Websites](#)

1114

[District-Sponsored Social Media](#)

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[District-Sponsored Social Media](#)

1312.1

[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

1312.1

[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

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[Civility](#)

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[Superintendent Governance Standards](#)

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3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3513.4	Drug And Alcohol Free Schools
3515.2	Disruptions
3515.2	Disruptions
3515.7	Firearms On School Grounds
3580	District Records
3580	District Records
4020	Drug And Alcohol-Free Workplace
4040	Employee Use Of Technology
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4112.2	Certification
4112.41	Employee Drug Testing
4112.41	Employee Drug Testing
4112.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4112.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4113.5	Working Remotely
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4117.7	Employment Status Reports
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4119.1	Civil And Legal Rights
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.22	Dress And Grooming
4119.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4119.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4119.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4131	Staff Development
4132	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4136	Nonschool Employment

4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4212.41	<u>Employee Drug Testing</u>
4212.41	<u>Employee Drug Testing</u>
4212.42	<u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u>
4212.42	<u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u>
4213.5	<u>Working Remotely</u>
4215	<u>Evaluation/Supervision</u>
4218	<u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u>
4218	<u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u>
4218.1	<u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)</u>
4219.1	<u>Civil And Legal Rights</u>
4219.11	<u>Sexual Harassment</u>
4219.11	<u>Sexual Harassment</u>
4219.22	<u>Dress And Grooming</u>
4219.23	<u>Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information</u>
4219.25	<u>Political Activities Of Employees</u>
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4231	<u>Staff Development</u>
4232	<u>Publication Or Creation Of Materials</u>
4236	<u>Nonschool Employment</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4312.41	<u>Employee Drug Testing</u>
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4312.42	<u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u>
4312.42	<u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u>
4313.5	<u>Working Remotely</u>
4315	<u>Evaluation/Supervision</u>
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4332	<u>Publication Or Creation Of Materials</u>
4336	<u>Nonschool Employment</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
5141.4	<u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u>
5141.4	<u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u>
5145.3	<u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u>
5145.3	<u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u>
6162.54	<u>Test Integrity/Test Preparation</u>
6162.6	<u>Use Of Copyrighted Materials</u>
6162.6	<u>Use Of Copyrighted Materials</u>