

## 432 TEACHER CODE OF ETHICS

### I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirement of the Board of Education that all teachers adhere to standards of ethics and professional conduct as outlined below and as required by Minnesota law and regulations.

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Each teacher, upon entering the teaching profession, assumes a number of obligations, one of which is to adhere to a set of principles which defines professional conduct. These principles are reflected in the following code of ethics, which sets forth to the education profession and the public it serves standards of professional conduct and procedures for implementation.

This code shall apply to all persons licensed according to rules established by the Board of Teaching.

#### A. Standards of professional conduct.

The standards of professional conduct are as follows:

- a. A teacher shall provide professional education services in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- b. A teacher shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to health and safety.
- c. In accordance with state and federal laws, a teacher shall disclose confidential information about individuals only when a compelling professional purpose is served or when required by law.
- d. A teacher shall take reasonable disciplinary action in exercising the authority to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- e. A teacher shall not use District resources or professional relationships with students, parents, or colleagues to private advantage (e.g., advertising private tutorial services at parent conferences or in District emails).
- f. A teacher shall delegate authority for teaching responsibilities only to licensed personnel.
- g. A teacher shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter.
- h. A teacher shall not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records or facts relating to that teacher's own qualifications or to other teachers' qualifications.
- i. A teacher shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students, students' families, staff or colleagues.
- j. A teacher shall accept a contract for a teaching position that requires licensing only if properly or provisionally licensed for that position

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 122A.14, Subd. 4 (Code of Ethics)  
Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)