

CODE OF ETHICS: CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

The teacher, believing in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizes the 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 teacher accepts the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards.

The teacher 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 teachers and provides standards by which to judge conduct.

Principle I. Commitment to the Student

The teacher strives to help each student realize his/her potential as a worthy and effective member of society. The teacher, 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 teacher shall:

1. Encourage each student to independent action in the pursuit of learning.
2. Provide students access to varying points of view.
3. Not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress.
4. Make reasonable effort to protect students from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety.
5. Avoid exposing students to embarrassment or disparagement
6. Provide every student the opportunity to participate in any program
7. Provide all services and benefits to every student.
8. Not grant any advantage to any student
9. Avoid the use of professional relationships with students for private advantage.
- 10.** 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.

Salinas Union High School District

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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 teacher:

1. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications.
2. Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague.
3. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or action.