

Williamson County Board of Education

**Adopted Date:**

6/4/79

Reviewed 5/21/01

5.611

ETHICAL PRACTICES FOR TEACHERS

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1 The educator, believing in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizes the supreme
2 importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurturing of democratic
3 principles. Essential to these goals is the protection of freedom to learn and to teach and the
4 guarantee of equal educational opportunities for all. The educator accepts the responsibility to
5 adhere to the highest standards.
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8 The educator recognizes the magnitude of the responsibility inherent in the teaching process. The
9 desire for the respect and confidence of the community provides the incentive to attain and
10 maintain the highest possible degree of ethical conduct. The Code of Ethics of the Education
11 Profession indicates the aspiration of all educators and provides standards by which to judge
12 conduct.
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14 Principle I - Commitment to the Student

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16 The educator strives to help each student realize his or her potential as a worthy and effective
17 member of society. The educator therefore works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of
18 knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.
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20
21 In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the educator:

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23 1. Shall not unreasonably restrain the student from independent action in the pursuit of
24 learning.
- 25
26 2. Shall not unreasonably deny the student access to varying points of view.
- 27
28 3. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress.
- 29
30 4. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to
31 health and safety.
- 32
33 5. Shall not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or disparagement.
- 34
35 6. Shall not on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or
36 religious beliefs, family, social or cultural background, or sexual orientation unfairly;
37 a. exclude any student from participation in any program;
38 b. deny benefits to any student;
39 c. grant any advantage to any student.
- 40
41 7. Shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage.
- 42
43 8. Shall not disclose information about students obtained in the course of professional service,
44 unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
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1 Principle II - Commitment to the Profession

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3 The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest
4 details of professional service.
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7 In the belief that the quality of the services of the education profession directly influences the nation
8 and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise professional standards, to promote a
9 climate that encourages the exercise of professional judgment, to achieve conditions which attract
10 persons worthy of the trust to careers in education, and to assist in preventing the practice of the
11 profession by unqualified persons.
12

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

- 14
15 1. Shall not in an application for a professional position deliberately make a false statement or
16 fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and qualifications.
17
18 2. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications.
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20 3. Shall not assist entry into the profession of a person known to be unqualified in respect to
21 character, education, or other relevant attributes.
22
23 4. Shall not knowingly make a false statement concerning the qualification of a candidate for a
24 professional position.
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26 5. Shall not assist a non-educator in the unauthorized practice of teaching.
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28 6. Shall not disclose information about colleagues obtained in the course of professional
29 service unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.
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31 7. Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague.
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33 8. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence
34 professional decisions or actions.
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44 Legal Reference:

45 TEA Code of Ethics of the Education Profession
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