

**Teacher Code of Ethics**  
Policy No. 425

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the requirements of the School Board that teachers adhere to the standards of ethics and professional conduct in this policy and Minnesota law.

**II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. A teacher's professional behavior must conform to an ethical code. The code must be idealistic and at the same time practical so that it can apply reasonably to all teachers. The teacher acknowledges that the schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the teacher assumes responsibility for providing appropriate educational opportunities in the school. This responsibility requires the teacher to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. To these ends, the teacher must subscribe to the following standards.
- B. The standards of professional conduct are as follows:
1. A teacher shall provide professional education services in a nondiscriminatory manner.
  2. A teacher shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to health and safety.
  3. 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.
  4. A teacher shall take reasonable disciplinary action in exercising the authority to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning.
  5. A teacher shall not use professional relationships with students, parents, and colleagues to private advantage.
  6. A teacher shall delegate authority for teaching responsibilities only to licensed personnel.
  7. A teacher shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter.

8. A teacher shall not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records or facts relating to that teacher's own qualifications or to other teacher's qualifications.
9. A teacher shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students or colleagues.
10. A teacher shall accept a contract for a teaching position that requires licensing only if properly or provisionally licensed for that position.

*Date of Adoption:* 6/14/10

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. §§ 125.185  
Minn. Rules Part 8700.7500 (Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers)

***Cross References:***