

**All Personnel**

BP 4119.21(a)

4219.21

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

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The Governing Board expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, ~~exhibit professional behavior~~ **behave professionally**, follow district policies and regulations, abide by state and federal laws, and exercise good judgment when interacting with students and other members of the school community. ~~Employee conduct should enhance~~ **Employees shall engage in conduct that enhances** the integrity of the district, advances the goals of the district's educational programs, and contributes to a positive school climate.

*(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*

*(cf. 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1 - Civil and Legal Rights)*

*(cf. 5131 - Conduct)*

*(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)*

The Board encourages district employees to accept as guiding principles the professional standards and codes of ethics adopted by educational or professional associations to which they may belong.

*(cf. 2111 - Superintendent Governance Standards)*

*(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*

Each employee ~~should make a commitment~~ **is expected** to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill his/her responsibilities and ~~should focus on his/her contribution to contribute~~ to the learning and achievement of district students.

*(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)*

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

**Inappropriate Conduct**

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon

*(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)*

*(cf. 3515.7 - Firearms on School Grounds)*

*(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)*

2. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory behavior towards students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members, or failing or refusing to intervene when an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against a student is observed

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

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## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS (continued)

(cf. 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11 - Sexual Harassment)  
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)  
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)  
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

3. Physically abusing, sexually abusing, neglecting, or otherwise willfully harming or injuring a child
4. Engaging in inappropriate socialization or fraternization with a student or soliciting, encouraging, or maintaining an inappropriate written, verbal, or physical relationship with a student
5. Possessing or viewing any pornography on school grounds, or possessing or viewing child pornography or other imagery portraying children in a sexualized manner at any time
6. Using profane, obscene, or abusive language against students, parents/guardians, staff, or community members
7. Willfully disrupting district or school operations by loud or unreasonable noise or other action

(cf. 3515.2 - Disruptions)

8. Using tobacco, alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace, on district property, or at a school-sponsored activity

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)  
(cf. 3513.4 - Drug and Alcohol Free Schools)  
(cf. 4020 - Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace)  
(cf. 4112.41/4212.41/4312.41 - Employee Drug Testing)  
(cf. 4112.42/4212.42/4312.42 - Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers)

9. Being dishonest with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, falsification of falsifying information in employment records or other school records
10. Divulging confidential information about students, district employees, or district operations to persons or entities not authorized to receive the information

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## **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS** (continued)

*(cf. 3580 - District Records)*

*(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)*

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

*(cf. 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information)*

11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities

*(cf. 4119.25/4219.25/4319.25 - Political Activities of Employees)*

12. Using district equipment or communications devices for personal purposes while on duty, except in an emergency, during scheduled work breaks, or for personal necessity

Employees shall be notified that computer files and all electronic communications, including, but not limited to, email and voice mail, are not private. To ensure proper use, the Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technological resources at any time without the employee's consent.

*(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)*

13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district

14. Wearing inappropriate attire

*(cf. 4119.22/4219.22/4319.22 - Dress and Grooming)*

## **Reports of Misconduct**

An employee who observes or has evidence of another employee's inappropriate conduct shall immediately report such conduct to the principal or Superintendent or designee. An employee who has knowledge of or suspects child abuse or neglect shall file a report pursuant to the district's child abuse reporting procedures as detailed in AR 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

*(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*

*(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting)*

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated. Any employee who is found to have engaged in inappropriate conduct in violation of law or Board policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and, in the case of a certificated employee, may be subject to a

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## **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS (continued)**

report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

(cf. 4117.7/4317.7 - *Employment Status Reports*)  
(cf. 4118 - *Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action*)  
(cf. 4218 - *Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action*)

An employee who has knowledge of but fails to report inappropriate employee conduct may also be subject to discipline.

The district prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint against an employee or reports an employee's inappropriate conduct. Any employee who retaliates against any such complainant, reporter, or other participant in the district's complaint process shall be subject to discipline.

### *Legal Reference:*

#### EDUCATION CODE

200-262.4 *Prohibition of discrimination*

44050 *Employee code of conduct; interaction with students*

44242.5 *Reports and review of alleged misconduct*

48980 *Parental notifications*

#### PENAL CODE

11164-11174.4 *Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act*

#### CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

80303 *Reports of dismissal, resignation and other terminations for alleged misconduct*

80331-80338 *Rules of conduct for professional educators*

### *Management Resources:*

#### COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS

*California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, February 2014*

*California Standards for the Teaching Profession, 2009*

~~*California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, February 2014*~~

#### COUNCIL OF CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICERS PUBLICATIONS

~~*Educational Leadership Policy Standards: ISLLC 2008, 2008*~~

*Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, 2015*

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

*Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, 1975*

#### WESTED PUBLICATIONS

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

*Management Resources: (continues - see next page)*

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## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS (continued)

*Management Resources: (continues)*

### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Association of California School Administrators: <http://www.acsa.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Federation of Teachers: <http://www.cft.org>

California School Employees Association: <http://www.csea.com>

California Teachers Association: <http://www.cta.org>

Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

Council of Chief State School Officers: <http://www.ccsso.org>

WestEd: <http://www.wested.org>

Policy  
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revised: November 12, 2015  
revised:

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