

KENTUCKY SCHOOL PERSONNEL CODE OF ETHICS

Educators in the Commonwealth strive toward excellence, recognize the importance of the pursuit of truth, nurture democratic citizenship and safeguard the freedom to learn and to teach. Kentucky educators believe in the worth and dignity of each human being and in educational opportunities for all. Educators in the Commonwealth strive to uphold the responsibilities of the education profession according to the highest ethical standards. The commitment of all Kentucky educators is symbolized by this code of ethics of the education profession in the Commonwealth.

The Professional Educator:

In Relation to Students

- Shall provide students with professional education services in a non-discriminatory manner and in consonance with accepted best practice known to the educator.
- Shall respect the constitutional rights of all students.
- Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter for which the educator bears responsibility.
- Shall take reasonable measures to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students.
- Shall not use professional relationships or authority with students for personal advantage.
- Shall keep in confidence information about students which has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
- Shall not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students or colleagues.
- Shall refrain from subjecting students to embarrassment or disparagement.
- Shall maintain a professional approach to personal relationships with students.

In Relation to Parents

- Shall make reasonable effort to communicate to parents information which should be revealed in the interest of the student.
- Shall endeavor to understand community cultures and diverse home environments of all students.
- Shall not knowingly distort or misrepresent facts concerning educational issues.
- Shall distinguish between personal views and the views of the employing educational agency.
- Shall not interfere in the exercise of political and citizenship rights and responsibility of others.
- Shall not use institutional privileges for private gain, for the promotion of political candidates, or for partisan political activities.
- Shall not accept gratuities, gifts or favors that might impair or appear to impair professional judgment, nor offer any such to obtain special advantages.

In Relation to the Education Profession

- Shall exemplify behaviors which maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession.
- Shall accord just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession in the exercise of their professional rights and responsibilities.
- Shall keep in confidence information acquired about colleagues in the course of employment, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
- Shall not use coercive means or give special treatment in order to influence professional decisions.
- Shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or responsibility only on the basis of professional preparation and legal qualifications.
- Shall not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records of facts relating to his/her own qualifications or those of other professionals.

I declare that I understand the standard for personal and professional conduct expected of a professional educator in Kentucky. I further certify that I have read and examined the CODE OF ETHICS applicable to school personnel, understand its provisions, and agree to abide by its terms during the course of my career as a professional educator.

Please type your full name in the box below. This will serve as an electronic signature verifying your understanding.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

CHARACTER AND FITNESS
16 KAR 2:010

Name: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone Number: (____) _____

Answer each question by circling "yes" or "no". If you answer "yes" to any question, you must submit a full explanation using a separate sheet of paper.

If you have ever held, or currently hold a professional certificate, license, credential, or other document issued to you by any jurisdiction (other than Kentucky) within the United States or abroad, enclose a copy of the certificate(s) or provide the following:

State or Jurisdiction _____ Certificate Number _____

Type _____ Issue Date _____ Expiration Date _____

1. Have you ever had a professional certificate, license, credential, or any document issued to you for practice denied, suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered. Yes No
2. Are you currently being reviewed or investigated for purposes of such action as stated in #1 or is such action pending? Yes No
3. Have you ever been dismissed, resigned, released, or asked to resign/retire or discharged from a professional position or military service for immorality, incompetence, willful neglect of duty, misconduct, or presenting false information toward obtaining the position? Yes No
4. Is any such action as stated in #3 pending? Yes No
5. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor (other than a moving traffic violation), been found guilty, or entered a plea of nolo contendere (no contest), even if adjudication was withheld, in Kentucky or in any other state? Yes No
6. If you indicated "yes" to any items #1 through #6, has that action been reviewed by the Education Professional Standards Board? _____ Yes No
(Date of Review)

I affirm and declare that all information given by me on this form is true, and correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation of facts, by omission or addition, may result in the denial of revocation of my teaching certificate. Further, I understand that KRS 161.120 provides that a teaching certificate may be revoked at any time upon determination that false information was presented toward obtaining a teaching certification.

I declare that I understand the standard for personal and professional conduct expected of a professional educator in Kentucky. I further certify that I have read and examined the CODE OF ETHICS applicable to school personnel, understand its provisions, and agree to abide by its terms during the course of my career as a professional educator.

I understand that the following conditions could interfere with my eligibility for teacher certification: having a certificate denied, suspended, revoked or voluntarily surrendered; being dismissed or being asked to resign from a professional school position or military service for immorality, incompetence, willful neglect of duty, misconduct or presenting false information toward obtaining the position; being convicted of a felony or misdemeanor (other than a moving traffic violation), having been found guilty or entering a plea of no contest even if adjudication was withheld.

I will remain compliant with all future VIRTUS bulletins while in the Teacher Education Program at Thomas More University.

Please type your full name in the box below. This will serve as an electronic signature verifying your understanding.

Candidate Signature: _____ Date: _____

Education Department Advisor Signature: _____