

# Lakeland Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in March</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Ethics</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>5.611</b>	Issued Date: <b>05/11/15</b>
		Rescinds: <b>5.611</b>	Issued: <b>04/13/15</b>

1 An effective educational program requires the services of men and women of integrity, high ideals and  
2 human understanding. To maintain and promote these essentials, all employees are expected to  
3 maintain high standards in his/her school relationships.<sup>1</sup> These standards include the following:

## 4 **Educator's obligations to students:**

- 5 1. An educator shall strive to help each student realize the student's potential as a worthy and  
6 effective member of society. An educator, therefore, works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry,  
7 the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy  
8 goals.
- 9 2. In fulfillment of this obligation to the student, an educator shall:
  - 10 a. Not unreasonably restrain the student from independent action in the pursuit of learning;
  - 11 b. Not unreasonably deny the student access to varying points of view;
  - 12 c. Not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress;
  - 13 d. Make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to  
14 health and safety;
  - 15 e. Not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or disparagement;
- 16 3. Not on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or religious  
17 beliefs, family, social or cultural background or sexual orientation unfairly;
  - 18 a. Exclude any student from participation in any program;
  - 19 b. Deny benefits to any student; or
  - 20 c. Grant any advantage to any student;
- 21 4. Not use professional relationships with students for private advantage; and
- 22 5. Not disclose information about students obtained in the course of professional service, unless  
23 disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.

## 24 **Educator's obligations to the education profession:**

- 25 1. The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the  
26 highest ideals of professional service. In the belief that the quality of the services of the  
27 education profession directly influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert  
28 every effort to raise professional standards, to promote a climate that encourages the exercise of  
29 professional judgment, to achieve conditions which attract persons worthy of the trust to  
30 careers in education, and to assist in preventing the practice of the profession by unqualified  
31 persons.

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33 In fulfillment of this obligation to the profession, an educator shall not:  
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- 1 1. Deliberately make a false statement or fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and
- 2 qualifications in an application for a professional position;
- 3 2. Misrepresent the educator's professional qualifications;
- 4 3. Assist entry into the profession of a person known to be unqualified in respect to character,
- 5 education, or other relevant attribute;
- 6 4. Knowingly make a false statement concerning the qualifications of a candidate for a
- 7 professional position;
- 8 5. Assist a non-educator in the unauthorized practice of teaching;
- 9 6. Disclose information about colleagues obtained in the course of professional service unless the
- 10 disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law;
- 11 7. Knowingly make false or malicious statements about a colleague; and
- 12 8. Accept any gratuity, gift, or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional
- 13 decisions or actions.

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Legal References

1. TCA 49-5-501(3)(D); TCA 49-5-1003; TCA 49-5-1004