



(F035-a)

Lake Superior State University - Department of Education

Student Teacher Code of Ethics

I realize the importance of the responsibilities I am to assume as a student teacher and the ever-present need for a high level of ethics to guide me in discharging these duties. I believe in conducting myself accordingly with special attention directed to the following relationships:

The Students

- To accept students for who they are: as individual human beings of worth, with purposes, interests, and needs;
- To earn students' respect through genuine interest in them and their activities;
- To refrain from disclosing information about students obtained during student teaching;
- To foster critical thinking among students by examining facts and opinions on issues without imposing personal opinions;
- To utilize all available evaluative techniques in assessing student learning and to assist students in making judgments about their own development;
- To establish only mature, professional relationships with students.

The Mentor / Collaborating Teacher

- To accept the mentor teacher as a professional person giving of his/her time and energy to help a new teacher; to respect the mentor teacher's program, goals, and practices, by striving to understand and to support them;
- To avoid emphasizing differences in philosophy and practices with the mentor teacher;
- To secure approval of the mentor teacher in advance of implementing student teacher plans and experimentation;
- To initiate suggestions for self-improvement during evaluation sessions with the mentor teacher; to accept constructive criticism with an open mind;
- To keep the mentor teacher informed of any personal or professional concerns that might affect the students, faculty, and school or university relationships;
- To cooperate with the mentor teacher on all activities arranged for my professional growth.

The School and Community

- To study and support school policies;
- To discuss school matters only with persons (principals, administrators, teachers) responsible for formulating and implementing school policies;
- To avoid violation of community morals;
- To refrain from unjustified or casual criticism of the school and community;
- To follow school rules and expectations for professional conduct and dress;
- To avoid the use of alcohol and drugs (e.g. tobacco) prior to contact in a professional role with students, parents, or others.

The University Supervisor

- To accept the supervisor as a Lake Superior State University representative concerned with assisting the student teacher to have a successful internship teaching experience;
- To seek the supervisor's suggestions for improving learning situations for students and for implementing the student teacher's many activities in the school and community;
- To arrange and confirm a schedule that plans for personal conferences with the supervisor;
- **To call, Email, or otherwise contact the supervisor with respect to any concerns throughout the student teaching experience;**
- To consider all conferences with the supervisor as professional and confidential.

The Department of Education at LSSU

- To recognize that the student teacher represents the School of Education and the University and that his/her conduct reflects upon the reputation of the institution;
- To refrain from uninformed and unsolicited criticism of the LSSU School of Education and of the host school should I find situations in the school different from my expectations.

The Profession

- To study toward understanding the role of the teacher within the school, the community, and the profession;
- To exhibit confidence and pride in the profession;
- To look upon the career of teaching as offering the opportunities for personal and professional growth;
- To contribute whenever possible to student learning experiences in the school, to the school program, and to faculty planning for school improvement;
- To become an active member in chosen professional organizations;
- To regularly read, study, and reflect upon the literature and research pertaining to education for maximum professional improvement.

The Code of Ethics is a general outline of professional dispositions. Of equal importance, however, is the understanding that ethics are also personal in nature.

I have read and understand the Lake Superior State University Student Teacher Code of Ethics and will conduct myself accordingly.

Signature and date

Print Name _____