

**Policy 4119.21: Professional Standards**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 07/01/2009 | **Last Revised Date:** 02/01/2026 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 02/01/2026

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe and positive school environment that promotes the learning, engagement, safety, and well-being of district students. The Board expects district employees to maintain the highest ethical standards, 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. Employees shall engage in conduct that enhances the integrity of the district; advances the goals of the district's educational programs; encourages student learning, engagement, and success; and contributes to a safe and 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.

Each employee is expected to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the employee's professional responsibilities and to contribute to the learning and achievement of district students.

**Inappropriate Conduct**

The Board prohibits inappropriate conduct between employees, adult volunteers, and district contractors and among and between adults employed, volunteering, or under contract with the district. (Education Code 32100)

Inappropriate employee conduct includes, but is not limited to:

1. Engaging in any conduct that endangers or threatens to endanger students, staff, or others, including, but not limited to, physical violence, threats of violence, or possession of a firearm or other weapon
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
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
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
9. Being dishonest with students, parents/guardians, staff, or members of the public, including, but not limited to, 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
11. Using district equipment or other district resources for the employee's own commercial purposes or for political activities
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.
13. Causing damage to or engaging in theft of property belonging to students, staff, or the district
14. Wearing inappropriate attire
15. Other conduct prohibited in Board Policy 4119.24/4219.24/4319.24 - Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions

### **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 Administrative Regulation 5141.4 - Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting.

Any reports of employee misconduct shall be promptly investigated by the Superintendent or designee. 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 report to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The Superintendent or designee shall notify local law enforcement as appropriate.

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.

## Notifications

The section(s) of the district's employee code of conduct addressing interactions with students shall be provided to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year and shall be posted on school and/or district websites. (Education Code 44050)

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### Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

<b>State</b>	<b>Description</b>
5 CCR 80300	Committee of credentials; definitions
5 CCR 80303	<a href="#"><u>Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct</u></a>
5 CCR 80331-80338	<a href="#"><u>Rules of conduct for professional educators</u></a>
Bus. Code 25608	<a href="#"><u>Alcohol on school property; use in connection with instruction</u></a>
Ed. Code 200-262.4	<a href="#"><u>Prohibition of discrimination</u></a>
Ed. Code 32100	Professional boundaries between adults and students and the safety of learning environments
Ed. Code 44010	<a href="#"><u>Sex offense; definition</u></a>
Ed. Code 44011	<a href="#"><u>Controlled substance offense; definition</u></a>
Ed. Code 44050	<a href="#"><u>Employee code of conduct; interaction with students</u></a>
Ed. Code 44420-44440	<a href="#"><u>Revocation and suspension of credentials</u></a>
Ed. Code 44811	<a href="#"><u>Disruption of classwork or extracurricular activities</u></a>
Ed. Code 44932	<a href="#"><u>Grounds for dismissal of permanent employees</u></a>
Ed. Code 44939.5	Certificated applicant screening
Ed. Code 48980	<a href="#"><u>Parent/Guardian notifications</u></a>
Ed. Code 49060-49070	Student records
H&S Code 104559	<a href="#"><u>Tobacco use prohibition</u></a>

Pen. Code 11164-11174.4

[Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act](#)

Pen. Code 270-273.76

Abandonment and neglect of children

Pen. Code 311-312.7

Obscene matter

**Federal**

**Description**

20 USC 1232g

[Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act \(FERPA\) of 1974](#)

34 CFR 99.1-99.8

[Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#)

**Management Resources**

**Description**

CA School Employees Association  
Publication

[Code of Ethics, 1954](#)

Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
Publication

[California Professional Standards for Education Leaders, 2014](#)

Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
Publication

[California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, February 2014](#)

Commission on Teacher Credentialing  
Publication

[California Standards for the Teaching Profession \(CSTP\), April 2024](#)

Nat'l Policy Board for Educational  
Administration

[Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, 2015](#)

National Education Association  
Publication

[Code of Ethics for Educators, 2020](#)

Website

[National Education Association](#)

Website

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Website

[Council of Chief State School Officers](#)

Website

[California Federation of Teachers](#)

Website

[California School Employees Association](#)

Website

[California Teachers Association](#)

Website

[Commission on Teacher Credentialing](#)

Website

[Association of California School Administrators](#)

Website

[WestEd](#)

Website

[California Department of Education](#)

Website

[CSBA](#)

WestEd Publication

[Moving Leadership Standards into Everyday Work: Descriptions of Practice, 2015](#)

## Cross References

<b>Code</b>	<b>Description</b>
0200	<a href="#"><u>Goals For The School District</u></a>
0410	<a href="#"><u>Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities</u></a>
0420.4	<a href="#"><u>Charter School Authorization</u></a>
0420.4	<a href="#"><u>Charter School Authorization</u></a>
0420.41	<a href="#"><u>Charter School Oversight</u></a>
0420.41-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>Charter School Oversight</u></a>
0450	<a href="#"><u>Comprehensive Safety Plan</u></a>
0450	<a href="#"><u>Comprehensive Safety Plan</u></a>
1113	<a href="#"><u>District And School Websites</u></a>
1113	<a href="#"><u>District And School Websites</u></a>
1113-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>District And School Websites</u></a>
1114	<a href="#"><u>District-Sponsored Social Media</u></a>
1114	<a href="#"><u>District-Sponsored Social Media</u></a>
1240	<a href="#"><u>Volunteer Assistance</u></a>
1240	<a href="#"><u>Volunteer Assistance</u></a>
1312.1	<a href="#"><u>Complaints Concerning District Employees</u></a>
1312.1	<a href="#"><u>Complaints Concerning District Employees</u></a>
1313	<a href="#"><u>Civility</u></a>
2111	<a href="#"><u>Superintendent Governance Standards</u></a>
3513.3	<a href="#"><u>Tobacco-Free Schools</u></a>
3513.3	<a href="#"><u>Tobacco-Free Schools</u></a>
3513.4	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Free Schools</u></a>
3515.2	<a href="#"><u>Disruptions</u></a>
3515.2	<a href="#"><u>Disruptions</u></a>
3515.7	<a href="#"><u>Firearms On School Grounds</u></a>
3580	<a href="#"><u>District Records</u></a>
3580	<a href="#"><u>District Records</u></a>

4020	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol-Free Workplace</u></a>
4040	<a href="#"><u>Employee Use Of Technology</u></a>
4040-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>Employee Use Of Technology</u></a>
4111	<a href="#"><u>Recruitment And Selection</u></a>
4112	<a href="#"><u>Appointment And Conditions Of Employment</u></a>
4112.2	<a href="#"><u>Certification</u></a>
4112.2	<a href="#"><u>Certification</u></a>
4112.41	<a href="#"><u>Employee Drug Testing</u></a>
4112.41	<a href="#"><u>Employee Drug Testing</u></a>
4112.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4112.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4112.5	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4112.5-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4112.6	<a href="#"><u>Personnel Files</u></a>
4113.5	<a href="#"><u>Working Remotely</u></a>
4115	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation/Supervision</u></a>
4115	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation/Supervision</u></a>
4116	<a href="#"><u>Probationary/Permanent Status</u></a>
4116	<a href="#"><u>Probationary/Permanent Status</u></a>
4117.7	<a href="#"><u>Employment Status Reports</u></a>
4118	<a href="#"><u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u></a>
4118	<a href="#"><u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u></a>
4119.1	<a href="#"><u>Civil And Legal Rights</u></a>
4119.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4119.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4119.22	<a href="#"><u>Dress And Grooming</u></a>
4119.23	<a href="#"><u>Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information</u></a>
4119.24	<a href="#"><u>Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions</u></a>
4119.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>

4119.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>
4121	<a href="#"><u>Temporary/Substitute Personnel</u></a>
4121	<a href="#"><u>Temporary/Substitute Personnel</u></a>
4131	<a href="#"><u>Staff Development</u></a>
4132	<a href="#"><u>Publication Or Creation Of Materials</u></a>
4136	<a href="#"><u>Nonschool Employment</u></a>
4158	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
4158	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
4211	<a href="#"><u>Recruitment And Selection</u></a>
4212	<a href="#"><u>Appointment And Conditions Of Employment</u></a>
4212.41	<a href="#"><u>Employee Drug Testing</u></a>
4212.41	<a href="#"><u>Employee Drug Testing</u></a>
4212.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4212.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4212.5	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4212.5-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4212.6	<a href="#"><u>Personnel Files</u></a>
4213.5	<a href="#"><u>Working Remotely</u></a>
4215	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation/Supervision</u></a>
4216	<a href="#"><u>Probationary/Permanent Status</u></a>
4218	<a href="#"><u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u></a>
4218	<a href="#"><u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action</u></a>
4218.1	<a href="#"><u>Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)</u></a>
4219.1	<a href="#"><u>Civil And Legal Rights</u></a>
4219.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4219.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4219.22	<a href="#"><u>Dress And Grooming</u></a>
4219.23	<a href="#"><u>Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information</u></a>

4219.24	<a href="#"><u>Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions</u></a>
4219.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>
4219.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>
4231	<a href="#"><u>Staff Development</u></a>
4232	<a href="#"><u>Publication Or Creation Of Materials</u></a>
4236	<a href="#"><u>Nonschool Employment</u></a>
4258	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
4258	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
4311	<a href="#"><u>Recruitment And Selection</u></a>
4312.41	<a href="#"><u>Employee Drug Testing</u></a>
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4312.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4312.42	<a href="#"><u>Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers</u></a>
4312.5	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4312.5-E(1)	<a href="#"><u>Criminal Record Check</u></a>
4312.6	<a href="#"><u>Personnel Files</u></a>
4313.5	<a href="#"><u>Working Remotely</u></a>
4315	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation/Supervision</u></a>
4317.7	<a href="#"><u>Employment Status Reports</u></a>
4319.1	<a href="#"><u>Civil And Legal Rights</u></a>
4319.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4319.11	<a href="#"><u>Sexual Harassment</u></a>
4319.22	<a href="#"><u>Dress And Grooming</u></a>
4319.23	<a href="#"><u>Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information</u></a>
4319.24	<a href="#"><u>Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions</u></a>
4319.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>
4319.25	<a href="#"><u>Political Activities Of Employees</u></a>
4331	<a href="#"><u>Staff Development</u></a>
4332	<a href="#"><u>Publication Or Creation Of Materials</u></a>

4336	<a href="#"><u>Nonschool Employment</u></a>
4358	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
4358	<a href="#"><u>Employee Security</u></a>
5141.4	<a href="#"><u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u></a>
5141.4	<a href="#"><u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u></a>
5142	<a href="#"><u>Safety</u></a>
5142	<a href="#"><u>Safety</u></a>
5145.3	<a href="#"><u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u></a>
5145.3	<a href="#"><u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u></a>
6162.54	<a href="#"><u>Test Integrity/Test Preparation</u></a>
6162.6	<a href="#"><u>Use Of Copyrighted Materials</u></a>
6162.6	<a href="#"><u>Use Of Copyrighted Materials</u></a>
7110	<a href="#"><u>Facilities Master Plan</u></a>