

## **MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL STAFF/STUDENT BOUNDARIES**

The board of directors expects all staff members to maintain the highest professional, moral and ethical standards in their interaction with students. Staff members are required to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, through consistently and fairly applied discipline and established and maintained professional boundaries.

The interactions between staff members and students must be consistent with the educational mission of the district and these interactions must also be based upon mutual respect and an understanding of appropriate boundaries in and outside of the educational setting.

Staff members may not intrude upon a student's physical and emotional boundaries unless the intrusion is necessary to serve an educational purpose. An educational purpose is one that relates to the staff member's assigned duties in the district. Staff members are required to be aware of the appearance of impropriety in their conduct toward students. Staff members will discuss student interaction issues with their supervisor whenever they are unsure if their conduct is, or could likely be, considered as inappropriate.

The board of directors supports the use of technology to communicate with its students, but for educational purposes only. Therefore, district employees are prohibited from online socializing or from engaging in any communication on social networking Web sites that is not for exclusively educational purposes.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.400 RCW 28A.405.470	Crimes against children Crimes against children - Mandatory termination of certificated employees - Appeal - Recovery of salary or compensation by district.
	RCW 28A.405.475	Termination of certificated employee based on guilty plea or conviction of certain felonies - Notice to superintendent of public instruction - Record of notices.
	RCW 28A.410.090	Revocation or suspension of certificate or permit to teach - Criminal basis - Complaints - Investigation - Process.
	RCW 28A.410.095	Violation or noncompliance - Investigatory powers of superintendent of public instruction - Requirements for investigation of alleged sexual misconduct towards a child - Court orders - Contempt - Written findings required.
	RCW 28A.410.100	Revocation of authority to teach - Hearings.
	WAC 181-87	Professional Certification - Acts of Unprofessional Conduct
	WAC 181-88	Sexual Misconduct, Verbal and Physical Abuse - Mandatory Disclosure - Prohibited Agreements

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**Revised:**