Policy 4319.24: Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions	**Status: Pending Approval**

Last Revised: 10/08/2025 | Last Reviewed Date: 10/08/2025

The purpose of this policy is to provide all staff, students, volunteers and community members with information to increase their awareness of their role in protecting students and themselves from inappropriate conduct and failure to maintain appropriate boundaries. All adults are expected to maintain professional, moral and ethical relationships with students that are conducive to an effective, safe learning environment. The provisions of this policy apply to all District staff, volunteers, coaches, and community members ("Employees") relative to their conduct with students in District schools and programs.

This policy addresses a range of behaviors that include not only obviously unlawful or improper interactions with students, but also behaviors that undermine the professional adult/student relationship and can lead to either misconduct or the appearance of impropriety.

~~The Governing Board desires to provide a positive school environment that protects the safety and well-being of district students.~~ The Board expects all adults with whom students may interact at school or in school-related activities, including employees, independent contractors, and volunteers, to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards in their interactions with students both within and outside the educational setting. Such adults shall not engage in unlawful or inappropriate interactions with students and shall avoid boundary-blurring behaviors that undermine trust in the adult-student relationship and lead to the appearance of impropriety.

Employees are prohibited from entering into or attempting to form a romantic or sexual relationship with any student or engaging in sexual harassment of a student, including sexual advances, flirtations, requests for sexual favors, inappropriate comments about a student's body or appearance, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

Adults shall not intrude on a student's physical or emotional boundaries unless necessary in an emergency or to serve a legitimate purpose related to instruction, counseling, student health, or

student or staff safety.

Any employee who observes or has knowledge of another employee's violation of this policy shall report the information to the Superintendent or designee or appropriate agency for investigation pursuant to the applicable complaint procedures. Other adults with knowledge of any violation of this policy are encouraged to report the violation to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall protect anyone who reports a violation from retaliation. Immediate intervention shall be implemented when necessary to protect student safety or the integrity of the investigation.

Employees who engage in any conduct in violation of this policy, including retaliation against a person who reports the violation or participates in the complaint process, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal. Any other adult who violates this policy may be barred from school grounds and activities in accordance with law. The Superintendent or designee may also notify law enforcement as appropriate.

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 web sites. (Education Code 44050).

Inappropriate Conduct

Employees shall remain vigilant of their position of authority and not abuse it when relating with students. Examples of employee conduct that can undermine professional adult-student interactions or create the appearance of impropriety include, but are not limited to:

1. Initiating inappropriate physical contact

2. Being alone with a student outside of the view of others

3. Visiting a student's home or inviting a student to visit the employee's home without parent/guardian consent

4. Maintaining personal contact with a student that has no legitimate educational purpose, by phone, letter, electronic communications, or other means, without including the student's parent/guardian or the principal. When communicating electronically with students, employees shall use district equipment or technological resources when available. Employees shall not communicate with students through any medium that is designed to eliminate records of the communications. The Superintendent or designee may monitor employee usage of district technology at any time without advance notice or consent.

All electronic communications from coaches and advisors to team or club members shall concern only legitimate educational interests and shall be sent in a single communication to all participating team or club members, except for communications concerning an individual student's medical or academic privacy matters, in which case the communication will be copied to a school administrator, athletic director or parent/guardian.

5. Creating or participating in social ~~networking sites~~ **media accounts and platforms** for communication with students, other than those created by the district, without the prior written approval of the principal or designee

6. Inviting or accepting requests from students, or former students who are minors, to connect on personal social ~~networking sites~~ **media accounts and platforms** (e.g., "friending" or "following" on social media), unless the site is dedicated to school business

7. ~~Singling out a particular student for personal attention and friendship, including giving gifts and/or nicknames to individual students.~~ **Singling out a particular student or students for personal attention and friendship beyond the professional staff-student relationship.**

8. ~~Addressing a student in an overly familiar manner, such as by using a term of endearment.~~ **Addressing students with personalized terms of endearment, pet names or otherwise in an overly familiar manner.**

9. ~~Socializing or spending time with students outside of school-sponsored events, except as participants in community activities.~~ **Socializing or spending time with students (including but not limited to activities such as going out for beverages, meals or movies, shopping, traveling and recreational activities and visiting the student's home) outside of school-sponsored events, except as participants in community activities.**

10. Sending or accompanying students on personal errands unrelated to any legitimate educational purpose

11. Transporting a student in a personal vehicle without prior authorization

12. ~~Encouraging students to confide their personal or family problems and/or relationships~~. **For non- guidance/counseling staff, encouraging students to confide their personal or family problems and/or relationships. If a student initiates such discussions, employees are expected to use their professional judgment in referring the student to appropriate guidance and staff. In either case, employee**

involvement should be limited to a direct connection to the student's school performance.

13. ~~Disclosing personal, family, or other private matters to students or sharing personal secrets with students.~~ **Employees shall avoid sharing intimate or inappropriate details of their personal lives. However, sharing appropriate personal experiences related to learning, growth or resilience is encouraged when it serves an educational or relational purpose.**

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.

~~State~~	~~Description~~
~~5 CCR 80303~~	~~Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct~~
~~5 CCR 80304~~	~~Notice of sexual misconduct~~
~~Ed. Code 44030.5~~	~~Reporting change in employment status due to alleged misconduct~~
~~Ed. Code 44050~~	~~Employee code of conduct; interaction with students~~
~~Ed. Code 44242.5~~	~~Reports and review of alleged misconduct~~
~~Ed. Code 44940~~	~~Compulsory leave of absence for certificated persons~~
~~Ed. Code 48980~~	~~Parent/Guardian notifications~~
~~Pen. Code 11164-11174.3~~	~~Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act~~

~~Management Resources~~	~~Description~~

~~Website~~	~~CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services~~

~~**Cross References**~~

~~Code~~	~~Description~~
~~4218~~	~~Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action~~
~~4218~~	~~Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action~~
~~4218.1~~	~~Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)~~

State	Description
5 CCR 80303	Reports of change in employment status; alleged misconduct
5 CCR 80331-80338	Rules of conduct for professional educators
Ed. Code 200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 44050	Employee code of conduct; interaction with students
Ed. Code 44242.5	Reports and review of alleged misconduct
Ed. Code 48980	Parent/Guardian notifications
Pen. Code 11164-11174.4	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

Management Resources	Description
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), October 2009
Council of Chief State School Officers Publication	Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, 2015
National Education Association Publication	Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, 1975
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, 2003

Cross References

Code	Description
0200	Goals For The School District
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
1113	District And School Websites
1113	District And School Websites
1113-E(1)	District And School Websites
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees
1312.1	Complaints Concerning District Employees
1313	Civility
2111	Superintendent Governance Standards
3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools

3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3513.4	Drug And Alcohol Free Schools
3515.2	Disruptions
3515.2	Disruptions
3515.7	Firearms On School Grounds
3580	District Records
3580	District Records
4020	Drug And Alcohol-Free Workplace
4040	Employee Use Of Technology
4040-E(1)	Employee Use Of Technology
4112.2	Certification
4112.2	Certification
4112.41	Employee Drug Testing
4112.41	Employee Drug Testing
4112.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4112.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers

4113.5	Working Remotely
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4115	Evaluation/Supervision
4117.7	Employment Status Reports
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4118	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4119.1	Civil And Legal Rights
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.11	Sexual Harassment
4119.22	Dress And Grooming
4119.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4119.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4119.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4131	Staff Development
4132	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4136	Nonschool Employment

4158	Employee Security
4158	Employee Security
4212.41	Employee Drug Testing
4212.41	Employee Drug Testing
4212.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4212.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4213.5	Working Remotely
4215	Evaluation/Supervision
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
4218.1	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action (Merit System)
4219.1	Civil And Legal Rights
4219.11	Sexual Harassment
4219.11	Sexual Harassment
4219.22	Dress And Grooming
4219.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information

4219.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4219.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4231	Staff Development
4232	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4236	Nonschool Employment
4258	Employee Security
4258	Employee Security
4312.41	Employee Drug Testing
4312.41	Employee Drug Testing
4312.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4312.42	Drug And Alcohol Testing For School Bus Drivers
4313.5	Working Remotely
4315	Evaluation/Supervision
4317.7	Employment Status Reports
4319.1	Civil And Legal Rights
4319.11	Sexual Harassment

4319.11	Sexual Harassment
4319.22	Dress And Grooming
4319.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4319.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4319.25	Political Activities Of Employees
4331	Staff Development
4332	Publication Or Creation Of Materials
4336	Nonschool Employment
4358	Employee Security
4358	Employee Security
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
6162.54	Test Integrity/Test Preparation
6162.6	Use Of Copyrighted Materials

6162.6 Use Of Copyrighted Materials