



LAUSD UNIFIED

CODE OF CONDUCT WITH STUDENTS

A top priority of the District is the safety of our students. All employees, as well as individuals who work with or have contact with students (e.g., volunteers, mentors, coaches, etc.) must be mindful of the distinction between being sensitive to and supportive of students and a possible or perceived breach of responsible, ethical behavior.

While the District encourages the cultivation of positive relationships with students, employees and individuals who work with or have contact with students are expected to use good judgment, maintain professional standards and ethical boundaries, and are cautioned to keep these guidelines in mind and avoid the following when possible, including but not limited to:



Engaging in behaviors either directly or in the presence of a student(s), that are unprofessional, unethical, illegal, immoral, or exploitative.



Meeting individually with a student of any gender behind closed doors or in spaces designated for students only (e.g., restrooms, locker rooms), except for specific school-related purposes (e.g., assessments, counseling, required services, supervision).



Remaining on campus with student(s) after the last administrator leaves the site; there are exceptions, such as afterschool programs, teachers rehearsing with students for a drama/music activity or coaching academic decathlon students, with administrative approval in advance.



Providing preferential treatment and/or giving student(s) gifts, rewards, or incentives that are not school-related and for which it is directly or implicitly suggested that a student(s) is (are) to say or do something in return.



Making gestures, statements, or comments, either directly or in the presence of a student(s), which are not age-appropriate, professional, or which may be considered sexual in nature, profane, obscene, abusive, intimidating, bullying, harassing, discriminatory, or demeaning.



Touching, having physical contact, or requesting the removal of clothing with a student(s) that is not age-appropriate or within the scope of the employee's/ individual's professional responsibilities.



Engaging in any conduct that endangers students, inclusive of physical violence or threats of violence.



Using alcohol, or an illegal or unauthorized substance, or possessing or distributing any controlled substance, while in the workplace or at a school-sponsored activity.



Transporting student(s) in a personal vehicle without proper written administrator and parent authorization forms on file in advance for District approved reasons.



Meeting with, taking or accompanying student(s) off campus for activities other than a District-approved school journey, activity, or field trip.



Providing students with, or requesting from students, personal contact information and/or communicating/ socializing with student(s), orally, in writing, by phone/ email/electronically/webcam, via Internet, social media, or in person for purposes that are not specifically school-related.



Taking pictures or videos of or requesting them from students, except for specific school-related purposes with appropriate approvals.

Even though the intent of the employee/individual may be purely professional, those who engage in any of the above conduct are potentially subjecting themselves to perceptions of impropriety. Any individuals who witness potential boundary violations are advised to report such conduct. The District takes such matters seriously and may be obligated to investigate the allegations, as warranted and/or when law enforcement clearance has been given, and take appropriate administrative corrective/disciplinary action. The District prohibits retaliation against anyone who reports or participates in an investigation of inappropriate conduct.

Individuals who need further information should contact the site administrator or the Educational Equity Compliance Office at (213) 241-7682; EquityCompliance@lausd.net.