

Current policy matches a past version of MSBA. MSBA has made changes on October 15, 2025

Recommended changes below to align with MSBA current model policy:

## 306 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR CODE OF ETHICS

### I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the expectation of the School Board that school administrators ~~adhere to the~~ ~~subscribe to the statement of~~ standards of ethics and professional conduct in this policy and Minnesota law ~~set forth in the Code of Ethics approved by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators.~~

### II. General Statement of Policy

The standards of professional conduct are as follows:

- A. A school administrator must provide professional educational services in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- B. A school administrator must take reasonable action to protect students and staff from conditions harmful to health and safety.
- C. A school administrator must take reasonable action to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- D. A school administrator must not use professional relationships with students, parents and caregivers, staff or colleagues to private advantage.
- E. A school administrator must disclose confidential information about individuals only when a compelling professional purpose is served in accordance with state and federal laws and school district policies.
- F. A school administrator must not knowingly falsify or misrepresent records or facts relating to the administrator's qualifications or to the qualifications of other staff or personnel.
- G. A school administrator must not knowingly make false or malicious statements about students, students' families, staff, or colleagues.
- H. A school administrator must not accept gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment, nor offer any favor, service, or item of value to obtain special advantage.
- I. A school administrator must only accept a contract for a position when licensed for the position or when a school district is issued a variance by the Minnesota Board of School Administrators.
- J. A school administrator, in filling positions requiring licensure, must employ, recommend for employment, and assign only appropriately licensed personnel, or persons for whom the school district has been issued a variance by the appropriate state board or agency, unless, after making reasonable efforts to obtain a variance, an appropriately licensed person cannot be assigned and the position must be filled to meet a legitimate emergency educational need.

K. A school administrator must not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, or misrepresentation in the performance of professional duties

~~A. An educational administrator's professional behavior shall conform to an ethical code. The code must be idealistic and at the same time practical, so that it can apply reasonably to all educational administrators. The administrator acknowledges that the schools belong to the public they serve for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all. However, the administrator assumes responsibility for providing professional leadership in the school and community. This responsibility requires the administrator to maintain standards of exemplary professional conduct. It must be recognized that the administrator's actions will be viewed and appraised by the community, professional associates, and students. To these ends, the administrator subscribes to the following statements of standards.¶¶~~

~~B. The educational administrator:¶¶~~

~~1. Makes the well being of students the fundamental value of all decision making and actions.¶¶~~

~~2. Fulfills professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity.¶¶~~

~~3. Supports the principle of due process and protects the civil and human rights of all individuals.¶¶~~

~~4. Obeys local, state, and national laws and does not knowingly join or support organizations that advocate, directly or indirectly, the overthrow of the government.¶¶~~

~~5. Implements the School Board's policies.¶¶~~

~~6. Pursues appropriate measures to correct those laws, policies, and regulations that are not consistent with sound educational goals.¶¶~~

~~7. Avoids using positions for personal gain through political, social, religious, economic, or other influence.¶¶~~

~~8. Accepts academic degrees or professional certification only from duly accredited institutions.¶¶~~

~~9. Maintains the standards and seeks to improve the effectiveness of the profession through research and continuing professional development.¶¶~~

~~10. Honors all contracts until fulfillment, release, or dissolution is mutually agreed upon by all parties to the contract.¶¶~~

~~11. Adheres to the Code of Ethics for School Administrators in Minnesota Rule.¶¶~~

*Legal References:*

Minn. Stat. § 122A.14, Subd. 4 (Duties of Board of School Administrators~~Code of Ethics~~)

**Minn. Rules Part 3512.0100 (Definitions)**

Minn. Rules Part 3512.5200 (Code of Ethics for School Administrators)

*School Board Action:*

Adopted December 21, 1999

Revised June 19, 2012

Reviewed / No Changes September 6, 2022