



A Look at The Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE)

The MCEE serves as a guide for future & current educators faced with the complexities of P-12 education. The code establishes principles for ethical best practice, mindfulness, self-reflection, and decision-making, setting the groundwork for self-regulation & self-accountability. The establishment of this professional code of ethics, by educators and for educators, honors the public trust and upholds the dignity of the profession.

Following are the MCEE principles; the full code with indicators is available at www.nasdtec.net.

Principle I: Responsibility to the Profession

The professional educator knows that trust in the profession depends upon a level of professional responsibility that may be higher than the minimal standard of policy and law. This responsibility entails holding oneself and other educators to the same ethical standards.

Principle II: Responsibility for Professional Competence

The professional educator is committed to the highest levels of professional and ethical practice.

Principle III: Responsibility to Students

The professional educator has a primary obligation to promote the health, safety and well-being of all students. The professional educator treats students with dignity and respect, and establishes and maintains appropriate verbal, physical, emotional, and social boundaries.

Principle IV: Responsibility to the School Community

The professional educator promotes appropriate relationships and effective interactions with members of the school community.

Principle V: Responsible and Ethical Use of Technology

The professional educator considers the impact of consuming, creating, distributing and communicating information through all technologies. The ethical educator is vigilant to ensure appropriate boundaries associated with role, time and place are maintained when using electronic communication.

The MCEE was developed under the leadership of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) and is supported by a number of national education organizations that undergird the profession.

