Understand the influence teachers can have on students when modeling behavior, values, and skills outside of the classroom.

Stimulating Thinking

1. What responsibility do educators have to their profession outside of the regular school day?

2. How can educators strike a positive balance between their personal and professional lives?
Participants will

- analyze how educator actions reflect directly on the status of the education profession and the community at large;
- identify characteristics and responsibilities of being a role model for students outside of school;
- generate a list of red flag areas of vulnerability educators should be aware of regarding behavior outside of school; and
- review consequences of actions from negative out-of-school educator conduct.

"Example is not the main thing in influencing others; it is the only thing."

*Albert Schweitzer*

**Student Perspective**
**Student Perspective**

- Passion and Ability to Inspire
- Clear Set of Values
- Commitment to Community
- Selflessness and Acceptance of Others
- Ability to Overcome Obstacles

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**Positive Educator Role Models**

What we do matters both inside and outside of school.

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**HEdLINE NEWS**

TRUE FALSE
Teacher Busted for Drugs Suspended by District
Teacher Resigns After Twerking Video
Teacher Fired for Stripping While on Leave
HS Principal Lied About Hypnotizing Students
Texas on Record-Setting Pace for Inappropriate Teacher-Student Relationships

A Thank You to the Teacher Who Saw What No One Else Did
Eleven Education Leaders Had Their Lives Changed by Amazing Teachers
Assistant Principal Organizes Fundraisers for Students
Our Private Lives Aren’t So Private Anymore…

Why?

The Impact of a Personal Online Post

The professional relationship with his principal became strained.

The principal lost respect and trust for the teacher.

Consequences of Actions
Consequences of Actions

- Loss of respect and credibility from colleagues, administrators, students, parents, board members, and community.
- Loss of employment.
- Loss of future employment/certification.

Can you teach good judgment?
Educators as Role Models

A Role Model

A role model is a person whose behavior is imitated by others.
A general principle of the law states that...

An educator’s good moral character constitutes the essence of the role model that the educator represents to students both inside and outside the classroom.

19 TAC §249.5

Community Expectations for Educator Actions Outside of the School Day
The community expects educators to:
- be keenly aware that their actions reflect on the profession and the schools they represent;
- demonstrate the highest level of professional judgment inside and outside of the school day; and
- understand that their presence within the community should be reflective of a law-abiding, trustworthy, and respectful citizen.

Discuss the challenges of being a role model for students outside of school.
Behavioral Red Flags

What red flag behaviors did you generate?

Areas of Caution and Vulnerability

Attire
- Professional or casual vs. inappropriate attire

Language
- Appropriate vs. inappropriate or vulgar language
Areas of Caution and Vulnerability

Social Media – Private/Public Posts
- Pictures or posts that are viewed as inappropriate, lewd, etc.

Use of Alcohol
- Social drinking vs. out-of-control drinking that adversely impacts behavior and driving

Areas of Caution and Vulnerability

Part-Time Employment/Hobbies Outside of Teaching
- Is this employment/hobby viewed as appropriate by my community? When in doubt, ask your administrator.

Involvement in ANY Illegal Activity
- Drugs
- Assault
- Theft

Consequences of Actions
- Reprimand
- Suspension
- Termination
- Loss of Certification
- Incarceration

Chapter 247: Statement of Purpose:
The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character.

Code of Ethics
18 TAC § 247.1

How do you define good moral character?

PERFORMANCE TASK
References


References


Reference