

TEACHER-STUDENT INTERACTIONS

Background

The *Code of Ethics* of the B.C. Teachers' Federation, of which every District teacher is a member, states:

"The teacher speaks and acts toward students with respect and dignity, and deals judiciously with them, always mindful of their individual rights and sensibilities."

Procedures

The District supports the kind of relationship expressed in the *Code of Ethics*. Specifically, the Board believes that every teacher is to:

1. Recognize the legal entitlement of students to consult with a teacher or administrative officer regarding their educational program;
2. Recognize the confidentiality of every student's records and divulge information only as permitted or required in the *School Act*, the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, or other legislation (in most cases, such information is not to be disclosed without the consent of the student or their parents, except where its release is required by law);
3. Recognize every student's right to hold and express dissenting views, and to absent themselves on grounds of conscience from patriotic or other observances (after, as a courtesy, advising the teacher);
4. Respect the student's private affairs and personal property;
5. Recognize that a student's freedom to publish and distribute publications for students in their school is to be limited only by the laws concerning libel, obscenity, and sedition, and by reasonable sensitivity to the feelings and values of others.

Reference: Sections 4, 7, 17, 20, 22, 65, 79, 85 School Act
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Teachers' Act
School Regulation 265/89

Adopted: February 4, 1974

Revised: September 1, 1989; February 1996; January 1999; September 24, 2018