

## Code of Conduct between Teachers and Students

### A. Introduction – A student-centered perspective:

#### \*Goals and Rationale:



#### **This code seeks to respond to, and address the following needs:**

- The Code addresses the interdependent duties, rights and responsibilities of student teachers, faculty members and educational partners.
- By addressing common issues and needs, the Code seeks to articulate and make explicit ethical principles that transcend disciplinary boundaries. These principles reflect the fundamental values that are expressed in the duties, rights and responsibilities of all involved in Teacher Education.
- The Code requires a reasonable flexibility in the implementation of common principles. It is designed to help those involved in Teacher Education, as a matter of sound ethical reasoning, to understand and respect the contexts in which they work and accommodate the needs of others.
- The Code seeks to encourage continued reflection and thoughtful response to ethical issues. It does not seek definitive answers to all ethical questions or situations. Rather, it seeks to outline the guiding principles to ethical conduct and to identify major issues which are essential to the development and implementation of this Code.

### B. Academic freedom and responsibilities

Teachers enjoy, and should continue to enjoy important freedoms and privileges. However, with freedoms come responsibilities and ethical challenges. This Code of Ethics is in

keeping with the philosophy and spirit of the New Directions that are embedded in the document Teacher Training: Orientations, Professional Competencies.

The role of the teacher and the contexts of teaching have changed. Thus, new resources (knowledge, skills, and Ability-KSA-) are required to practice the profession and meet the challenges of teaching and learning in whatever contexts student teachers may find themselves and to engage in professional development individually and with others.

### **C. Guiding ethical principles**

Ethical student teachers should respect the following guiding ethical principles:

#### **1. Respect for human dignity:**

- ➡ Speaks and acts towards all students with respect and dignity; and deals judiciously with them at all times, always mindful of their individual rights and personal sensibilities.
- ➡ Respects the dignity and responsibilities of cooperating teachers, peers, principals, parents and other professionals or para-professionals within the school, school board and community.

#### **2. Educating**

In creating their lesson plans, teachers should "present facts without distortion, bias, or personal prejudice. Students should be exposed to various viewpoints and ideas, so they can form their own opinions

#### **3. Respect for confidentiality and privacy:**

- ➡ Respects the confidential nature of all information related to students and their families and will share such information in an appropriate manner only with those directly concerned with their welfare.
- ➡ Respects the confidential nature of all information related to all school personnel and will share such information in an appropriate manner.

**(Teachers may not share private information about students with other faculty members, students or parents. For example, teachers should not discuss a student's grades, home circumstances, and behavior or learning abilities. In certain situations, these may be shared with other educators in a school if the information will help the teachers to better educate the student).**

#### 4. Respect for justice:

- Respects and recognizes the right of individuals to be treated with fairness and equity, and the importance of avoiding conflicts of interest.  
**(All teachers should treat all the students equally. However, they must treat each student fairly. Teachers should not discriminate based on different cultures, race, gender, sexual orientation or any other attribute).**

#### 5. Respect for safety of students:

- Respects the right of individuals to expect that student teachers will engage in practices that aim to ensure the physical, psychological and emotional safety of students.  
**(The teacher is responsible for making the classroom reasonably safe for students. In addition to physical safety, students should be provided with emotional safety. Teachers must not allow bullying or other forms of harassment).**

#### 6. Respect for existing ethical codes and professional standards:

- Respects the authority, roles and responsibilities of the cooperating teacher and agrees to adhere to the responsibilities and obligations for teachers as outlined from ADEC.