

1250 **APPENDIX TO THE BYLAWS**  
1251 **CODE OF ETHICS OF THE EDUCATION PROFESSION**  
1252 **Adopted by 1975 NEA Representative Assembly**

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1254 **PREAMBLE**

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1256 The educator, believing in the worth and dignity of each human being, recognizes  
1257 the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurture  
1258 of democratic principles. Essential to these goals is the protection of freedom to learn  
1259 and to teach and the guarantee of equal educational opportunity for all. The educator  
1260 accepts the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards. The educator  
1261 recognizes the magnitude of responsibility inherent in the teaching process. The desire  
1262 for the respect and confidence of one's colleagues, of students, of parents and of the  
1263 members of the community provides the incentive to attain and maintain the highest  
1264 possible degree of ethical conduct. The Code of Ethics of the Education Profession  
1265 indicates the aspiration of all educators and provides standards by which to judge  
1266 conduct. The remedies specified by the NEA and/or its affiliates for the violation of any  
1267 provision of this Code shall be exclusive and no such provision shall be enforceable in  
1268 any form other than one specifically designated by the NEA or its affiliates.  
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1270 **PRINCIPAL I**  
1271 **Commitment to the Student**

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1273 The educator strives to help each student realize his or her potential as a worthy  
1274 and effective member of society. The educator, therefore, works to stimulate the spirit of  
1275 inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding and the thoughtful formulation  
1276 of worthy goals. In fulfillment of the obligation to the student, the educator:

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- 1278 1. Shall not unreasonably restrain the student from independent  
1279 action in the pursuit of learning.
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  - 1281 2. Shall not unreasonably deny the student access to varying points  
1282 of view.
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  - 1284 3. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the  
1285 student's progress.
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  - 1287 4. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions  
1288 harmful to learning or to health and safety.
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  - 1290 5. Shall not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or  
1291 disparagement.  
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6. Shall not, on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or religious beliefs, family, social or cultural background, or sexual orientation, unfairly:
    - a. Exclude any student from participation in any program;
    - b. Deny benefits to any student;
    - c. Grant any advantage to any student.
  7. Shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage.
  8. Shall not disclose information about students obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves a compelling professional purpose or is required by law.

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## **PRINCIPLE II**

### **Commitment to the Profession**

1312 The education profession is vested by the public with a trust and responsibility  
1313 requiring the highest ideals of professional service.  
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1315 In the belief that the quality of the services of the education profession directly  
1316 influences the nation and its citizens, the educator shall exert every effort to raise  
1317 professional standards, to promote a climate that encourages the exercise of  
1318 professional judgment, to achieve conditions which attract persons worthy of the trust to  
1319 careers in education and to assist in preventing the practice of the profession by  
1320 unqualified persons.  
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1322 In fulfillment of the obligation to the profession, the educator;  
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1. Shall not in an application for a professional position deliberately make a false statement or fail to disclose a material fact related to competency and qualifications.
  2. Shall not misrepresent his/her professional qualifications.
  3. Shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter relevant to the student's progress.
  4. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety.

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5. Shall not intentionally expose the student to embarrassment or disparagement.
  6. Shall not on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or religious beliefs, family, social or cultural background or sexual orientation, unfairly:
    - a. Exclude any student from participation in any program;
    - b. Deny benefits to any student;
    - c. Grant any advantage to any student.
  7. Shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage.
  8. Shall not accept any gratuity, gift or favor that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or actions.

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This Code of Ethics of the National Education Association has been officially adopted and incorporated into the Bylaws of the Columbus Education Association.