

**Barrington Public Schools**  
**Barrington, RI 02806**

## **Code of Professional Responsibility Policy**

The Barrington Public School District fully adopts the [Rhode Island Educator Code of Professional Responsibility](#) in compliance with the [Basic Education Program](#). Working with students in Barrington Public Schools necessitates a public trust and a level of responsibility to our citizens that requires the highest level of professionalism from our educators. Bringing all Barrington students to proficiency so they can lead fulfilling and productive lives, succeed in academic and employment settings, and contribute to society demands a profession that exists primarily to meet student needs. The development of professional standards for educators, the enforcement of certification requirements, and the regular evaluation of educators address the standards of performance for our profession. As educators who accept the public trust to work in our schools, we also accept the responsibility for professional practice that demonstrates ethical conduct and responsibility.

The Rhode Island Educator Code of Professional Responsibility establishes a set of principles to guide the conduct of Rhode Island's certified educators and the assessment of conduct in situations that have professional and ethical implications. As educators, our first responsibility is to our students and to assuring that all students achieve at high levels. As professionals, we also have personal responsibility for establishing high personal standards and monitoring our attainment of these standards. As members of school, district, and professional communities, we are responsible for working collaboratively with others to pursue collective goals. Parents and community members are also important partners in pursuing educational goals. As educators we are also responsible for supporting the policies and procedures of the State Board of Education in assuring that only qualified teachers are entrusted with our state's classrooms.

The Code contains five core principles that govern the responsibilities and commitments of Rhode Island Educators. Consistent with applicable law, the Rhode Island Educator Code of Professional Responsibility shall serve as a basis for decisions on issues pertaining to certification, licensure and employment.

Note: For the purposes of this section, "educator" means a person: who is applying for, who holds or who is employed under a teaching certificate, administrator certificate, support personnel certificate or other related permit or endorsement issued by the Board of Education other public school employees who may be licensed through other professional bodies (e.g., occupational therapists, physical therapists) and are responsible for the education of children; and anyone who is applying for or is employed as a teacher assistant in a Rhode Island public school.

The Rhode Island Code of Professional Responsibility is a set of commitments which the Rhode Island educational community expects all members to honor and practice. These commitments guide professional conduct in all situations with professional and ethical implications. The Code

embraces the fundamental belief that the student is the foremost reason for the existence of the profession.

References:

[Basic Education Program](#), 2009

[Rhode Island Code of Professional Responsibility](#)

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**Amended:**