

APPENDIX E

Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics

Preamble

The professional conduct of every educator affects attitudes toward the profession and toward education. Aware of the importance of maintaining the confidence of students, parents, colleagues and the public, Montana educators strive to sustain the highest degree of ethical conduct.

Montana educators value the worth and dignity of every person and the pursuit of truth, knowledge and excellence. While the freedom to learn and the freedom to teach are essential to education in a democracy, educators in Montana balance these freedoms with their own adherence to this ethical code.

Members of the Profession of Education in Montana:

- * Make the well-being of students the fundamental value in all decisions and actions.
- * Fulfill professional responsibilities with diligence and integrity.
- * Protect the civil and human rights of students and colleagues.
- * Know the policies, regulations, rules, and laws governing the professional conduct of educators.
- * Pursue appropriate measures to change those policies, regulations, rules, and laws which are inconsistent with sound educational goals.
- * Recognize parents and the public as integral parts of the school community, and encourage their involvement in education.
- * Maintain professional standards and seek to improve the effectiveness of the profession.
- * Exemplify and foster a philosophy of education which encourages a lifelong pursuit of learning.