

STAFF CONDUCT WITH STUDENTS

The MSAD #56 Board of Directors expects all staff members, including teachers, coaches, counselors, administrators and others, to maintain the highest professional, moral and ethical standards in their conduct with students. For the purposes of this policy, staff members also include school volunteers.

The interactions and relationships between staff members and students should be based upon mutual respect and trust; an understanding of the appropriate boundaries between adults and students in an educational setting; and consistent with the educational mission of the schools.

Staff members are expected to be sensitive to the appearance of impropriety in their conduct with students, such as singling out a particular student or students for personal attention and friendship beyond the normal teacher-student relationship. Staff members are encouraged to discuss issues with their building administrator or supervisor whenever they are unsure whether particular conduct may constitute a violation of this policy.

Staff violations of this policy shall result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Violations involving sexual or other abuse will also result in referral to the Department of Human Services and/or law enforcement in accordance with the Board's policy on Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect.

This policy shall be included in all employee, student and volunteer handbooks.

CROSS REFERENCE: ACA, Harassment Policy
 JLF, Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

ADOPTED: January 14, 2003