

## **Standard 2**

### **Educators are role models who act ethically and honestly.**

As we enter our final year of education, we are concretizing our transition from student to professional. As we make this change, we have to understand that acting ethically and honestly is fundamental in becoming an effective role model for our future students. Although this applies to conduct in the classroom and at school, it also means presenting yourself in a professional way when you are off-duty. Since I currently work at a boarding school, I am overwhelmingly aware of the presence of social media in the lives of high-school students; it permeates their life. As professionals, it is very important that we refrain from interacting with students on these public forums. Even though your intentions could be harmless, you never know how other people perceive you.

As educators, we have a moral obligation to treat our students with the utmost care. That is, we should never put students in a position where they could be injured physically, mentally, or emotionally. As educators we need to understand this and be aware that there exists laws in BC regarding how we take care of students. If we are found to show disregard for their safety and act in an unreasonable manner around the students, we could be held criminally negligent for any injuries. Ultimately, we have an obligation to be responsible for our students' safety while acting as a primary role model in their lives.

Evan Fryer  
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