

<p style="text-align: center;">NORTH PROVIDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY</p>	<p>Approved: 5/27/2020</p> <p>Updated: 8/27/2025</p>

PURPOSE

The Rhode Island Department of Education (“RIDE”) has enacted the Rhode Island Professional Educator Standards and the revised Basic Education Plan (“BEP”). The North Providence School Committee and Administration have a legal responsibility to follow and implement all applicable RIDE rules and regulations.¹ Under the BEP, the management and evaluation of the Educator is “essential to the mission of implementing a statewide system of public education.”²

Pursuant to 200-RICR-20-20-1, Section 1.3, RIDE has established:

1. Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards
2. Rhode Island Standards for Educational Leadership
3. Rhode Island Code of Professional Responsibility

These standards define the knowledge, skills, and professional behaviors expected of all Rhode Island educators and serve as the foundation for professional practice in North Providence Public Schools.

POLICY

The North Providence School Committee adopts and incorporates by reference the standards identified in 200-RICR-20-20-1, Section 1.3, including the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards, the Rhode Island Standards for Educational Leadership, and the Rhode Island Code of Professional Responsibility. These shall collectively be referred to as the North Providence Public Schools’ Educator Standards and Code of Professional Responsibility.

¹ R.I.G.L. 16-2-9 and 16-2-11

² BEP 200-RICR-20-10-1.4.1(B)(3).

All educators³ employed by North Providence Public Schools are required to adhere to these standards as a condition of employment. This obligation includes compliance with any amendments, revisions, or new provisions adopted by RIDE or the Rhode Island Board of Elementary and Secondary Education after the effective date of this policy.

In accordance with applicable law, the North Providence Public Schools' Educator Standards and Code of Professional Responsibility will be used as a guiding standard and determining factor in all personnel and employment decisions.

Serving as an educator in North Providence Public Schools necessitates a public trust and a high level of responsibility to our citizens. Educators must uphold the highest standards of the profession, ensuring that student needs remain the central focus of all professional actions.

Applicability and Responsibilities

- This policy applies to all educators in North Providence Public Schools.
- Educators must act in accordance with the Professional Teaching Standards, Standards for Educational Leadership and the Code of Professional Responsibility established by RIDE.
- The primary responsibility of every educator is to ensure that all students are provided with high-quality instruction and the opportunity to achieve at high levels.
- Educators must maintain the highest professional and ethical standards and engage in continuous self-assessment.
- Collaboration with colleagues, parents, and community members is essential to advancing the District's mission.
- All educators must comply with RIDE credentialing requirements to ensure only qualified professionals are entrusted with Rhode Island classrooms.

It is the expectation of North Providence Public Schools that all educators refer to link below and review the Rhode Island Professional Educator Standards in further detail: <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/200-20-20-1>

³ An educator is a person who is applies for or is employed under a teaching certificate, administrator certificate, support personnel certificate or other related permit or endorsement issued by the Board of Regents of Elementary and Secondary Education; other public school employees who may be licensed through other professional bodies (e.g., nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, school psychologists) and are responsible for the education of or delivery of services to children; including teacher assistants, behavior specialists and paraprofessionals in North Providence Public Schools.

~~I.~~ **PURPOSE**

~~The Rhode Island Department of Education has enacted The Rhode Island Code of Professional Responsibility and the revised Basic Education Plan (BEP).~~

~~The North Providence School Committee and Administration have a statutory responsibility to follow and implement the Department of Education's rules and regulations.⁴~~

~~Under the BEP, the management and evaluation of the Educator is "essential to the mission of implementing a statewide system of public education."⁵~~

~~This policy outlines the expectations and professional responsibilities of Educators in North Providence Public Schools.~~

~~Working with students in North Providence 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 North Providence 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.~~

~~Educators accept the public trust to work in our schools, and therefore must accept the responsibility for professional practice that demonstrates ethical conduct and responsibility.~~

~~The North Providence Public Schools' Educator Code of Professional Responsibility establishes a set of principles to guide the conduct of our certified educators and the assessment of conduct in situations that have professional and ethical implications.~~

~~II.~~ **POLICY**

~~The District adopts a Code of Professional Responsibility for all school educators. The code incorporates by reference the Rhode Island Department of Education Code of Professional Responsibility.~~

⁴ R.I.G.L. §§ 16-2-9 and 16-2-11.

⁵ BEP 200-RICR-20-10-1.4.1(B)(3).

~~The North Providence Public Schools' Educator Code of Professional Responsibility policy and protocol may include additional standards of professional responsibility in addition to those enacted in state law and regulation. Such additional standards shall be fair, reasonable, and in accordance with federal and state law.~~

~~The North Providence Public Schools' Educator Code of Professional Responsibility policy and protocol shall apply to every educator in the District⁶.~~

~~The Superintendent is directed to develop protocols facilitating the adoption and utilization of a Code of Professional Responsibility for all school employees. Such protocol will be consistent with this policy.~~

⁶ An educator is a person who is applies for or is employed under a teaching certificate, administrator certificate, support personnel certificate or other related permit or endorsement issued by the Board of Regents of Elementary and Secondary Education; other public school employees who may be licensed through other professional bodies (e.g., nurses, occupational therapists, physical therapists, school psychologists) and are responsible for the education of or delivery of services to children; including teacher assistants, behavior specialists and paraprofessionals in North Providence Public Schools.