BLYE FRANK, PHD

• Professor & Dean, Faculty of Education
• I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the hul’qumi’num Musqueam people.

• We are privileged to be doing our work as occupiers of their lands.
KEY CONCEPTS

Professionalism

Standards of Education

Code of Ethics
BEING A TEACHER

As teachers, our mission is:
• To teach professionally, not personally
• To advance education’s role in the well-being of people and communities through:
  • Ethical practice;
  • Profession-led regulation; and
  • High personal standards of behavior.
TEACHING IS A PRIVILEGE

Your suitability to teach is based on three factors:
• Satisfactory academic performance
• Satisfactory teaching performance
• Professional conduct during both coursework and practical

Source: UBC Academic Calendar 2013/14 – Bachelor of Education Academic Regulations, and the UBC Teacher Education Program View book 2013/14, available at: teach.educ.ubc.ca/resources
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AS A TEACHER CANDIDATE

As a student in the Faculty of Education, you are:

• Expected to adhere to standards of professional practice and ethics in your interactions with faculty and peers, as well as with teachers, staff and students in schools.
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DURING PRACTICUM

During practica, teacher candidates are:

• Subject to Ministry of Education’s The School Act, and are expected to comply with the standards of professional conduct followed by school personnel. The School Act can be found at: bced.gov.bc.ca/legislation/schoollaw

• Expected to act in accordance with the guidelines published in the Member’s Guide to the BCTF, which can be found at: bctf.ca/MembersGuide
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR EDUCATORS IN BC

According to the Teacher Regulation Branch (formerly the BC College of Teachers), educators should:

1. Value and care for all students
2. Act ethically and honestly
3. Understand and apply knowledge of student growth and development
4. Value the involvement and support of parents, guardians, families and different communities
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR EDUCATORS IN BC

According to the Teacher Regulation Branch, teachers should:

5. Implement effective practices in their classroom management
6. Understand the subject areas you teach
7. Engage in career-long learning
8. Contribute to the profession

Source: BC Teacher Regulation Branch at: bcteacherregulation.ca
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators value the success of all students. Educators care for students and act in their best interests.

• Privileged position of power and trust
• Responsible for students’ emotional and physical safety
• Foster students’ positive personal identity, mental and physical well-being, social and personal responsibility, and intellectual development
• Treat students equitably with acceptance, dignity, and respect
• Understand the importance of confidentiality, protect student privacy, and do not abuse or exploit students
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators act ethically and maintain the integrity, credibility and reputation of the profession.

• Educators are role models
• Educators’ individual conduct contributes to the perception of the profession as a whole
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators understand and apply knowledge of student growth and development.

• Demonstrate an understanding of individual learning differences and needs
• Recognize the importance and connection of cultural identity, ways of being and worldviews to student learning
• Work to create a positive, safe, and inclusive learning environment to best meet the diverse needs of students
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators value the involvement and support of parents, guardians, families and communities in schools.

- Understand, respect, and encourage the participation of families and communities in student learning and development.
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators implement effective planning, instruction, assessment and reporting practices to create respectful, inclusive environments for student learning and development.

• Value collaborative practice
• Communicate effectively
• Know when to seek support for their practice and for students
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators demonstrate a broad knowledge base and an understanding of areas they teach.

• Understand the curriculum and methodologies of areas they teach
• Build upon student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators engage in professional learning.

• Engage in professional learning and reflective practice to support their professional growth
• Recognize and meet their individual professional needs through various learning opportunities
• Develop and refine personal philosophies of education, teaching and learning that are informed by research, practice, and the Professional Standards for BC Educators
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR BC EDUCATORS

Educators contribute to the profession.

• Honour the profession by supporting, mentoring or encouraging other educators and those preparing to enter the profession.
• Contribute their expertise in a variety of ways
• Contribute to a culture of collegiality
Educators respect and value the history of First Nations, Inuit and Metis in Canada and the impact of the past on the present and the future. Educators contribute towards truth, reconciliation and healing. Educators foster a deeper understanding of ways of knowing and being, histories, and cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Metis.
BCTF CODE OF ETHICS

All elementary, middle and secondary school teachers are members of the BC Teacher’s Federation

• The Code of Ethics states general rules for all BCTF members to maintain high standards of professional service and conduct towards students, colleagues, and the professional union
BCTF CODE OF ETHICS

Highlights from the BCTF Code of Ethics

• Speak and act toward students with respect and dignity
• Deal judiciously with students, always mindful of their individual rights and sensibilities
• Respect the confidential nature of information concerning students
• Recognize the privileged relationship with students and refrain from exploiting that relationship

Read the BCTF Code of Ethics at: bctf.ca/MembersGuide
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND SOCIAL MEDIA/TEXTING

Professional conduct includes the realms of speech, texting and writing

hey prof!
sorry I didn't make it to class yesterday, wasn’t feeling too great so decided to catch some extra shut-eye. no, I didn’t have a hangover from the weekend LOL! hope I didn't miss anything...

I can’t wait for this kid Bryan to get out of my class. He’s just such a brat! I’m sick and tired of his antics, and forget about trying to teach him anything...
CONSIDER THIS A YEAR-LONG JOB INTERVIEW
QUESTIONS?

Resources on Professional Conduct:

- **UBC Bachelor of Education Policy Handbook:**
  [teach.educ.ubc.ca/resources](teach.educ.ubc.ca/resources)

- **BC Teacher Regulation Branch:**
  [bcteacherregulation.ca](bcteacherregulation.ca)

- **The School Act:**
  [bced.gov.bc.ca/legislation/schoollaw](bced.gov.bc.ca/legislation/schoollaw)

- **BC Teacher’s Federation:**
  [bctf.ca](bctf.ca)
Thank you