Become a Memorable Teacher for All the Right Reasons

Western Carolina University
Beginning Teacher Support
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About Me

- Taught elementary, middle & high
- Served as an Instructional Coach
- Served as a School Administrator
- Served as Regional Lead for NCDPI
- Current: Director of Leadership Development
What makes a teacher memorable?

Mrs. Grantham
Memorable…for all the right reasons
How do you want to be remembered?

Imagine Your “Teacher Image” Here
Some professional guidance...

- NC Professional Teaching Standards

North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards

For every student in North Carolina, a knowledgeable, skilled compassionate teacher... a star in every classroom.
Some professional guidance...

- NC Code of Ethics

**Preamble:** The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to define standards of professional conduct.

The responsibility to teach and the freedom to learn, and the guarantee of equal opportunity for all are essential to the achievement of these principles. The professional educator acknowledges the worth and dignity of every person and demonstrates the pursuit of truth and devotion to excellence, acquires knowledge, and nurtures democratic citizenship. The educator exemplifies a commitment to the teaching and learning processes with accountability to the students, maintains professional growth, exercises professional judgment, and personifies integrity. The educator strives to maintain the respect and confidence of colleagues, students, parents and legal guardians, and the community, and to serve as an appropriate role model.

To uphold these commitments, the educator:
Some professional guidance...

- Local Board of Education Policies
- School Policies
- School Norms
Start Getting Your Head Around:

- Boundaries

- Appropriate Methods of:
  - Communication
  - Classroom Management/Discipline
  - Grading
  - Assessment
  - Time Management
  - Rigor

If you don’t know, **ASK** a mentor or supervisor.
**Professionalism**

**Definition**
- The competence, skills or dispositions expected of a professional.

**Characteristics**
- Instructional Integrity
- Personal Integrity
- A sense of purpose/team
- Self-awareness as to professional obligations
- Adheres to Code of Ethics
- Adheres to Professional Standards

**Examples**
- Returning phone calls/emails
- Being on time
- Dressing appropriately
- Being overly prepared
- Staying current
- Having boundaries
- Respecting rules for cell phone use

**Non-examples**
- Airing ‘dirty’ laundry in public
- Disregard for rules/norms
- Incompetence
- Insubordination
- Immorality
- Words/deeds that harm
The “What” of Professionalism

- Communication (all forms)
- Dress
- Interactions
- Respect for rules/authority
- Boundaries
- ‘Top of Your Game’
- Competence

Importance of the “3 I’s”

- Standards & Ethics
  
  North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards Commission
  
  “For every student in North Carolina, a knowledgeable, skilled compassionate teacher... a star in every classroom.”
  
  Every public school student will graduate from high school, globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st Century.
  
  Mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education, August 2006
  
  A NEW VISION OF TEACHING
  The different demands on 21st Century education dictate new roles for teachers in their classrooms and schools. The following defines what teachers need to know and do to be able to teach students in the 21st Century:
The “How” of Professionalism

- Know the NC Code of Ethics and Professional Teaching Standards

- Consider Consequences

- Think Like a:
  - Parent
  - Principal
  - Superintendent
  - Lawyer
  - TV news anchor
  - Student

Think First!
The “When” of Professionalism

- When am I not Mrs. King?
- Integrity doesn’t take a vacation in our profession.
- “Everything we do and say is a reflection of our school.”

You are always a teacher.
Because We Teach...

- We are in positions of influence and trust.
- We are expected to have a moral compass.
- We are modeling the expectation, whether we know it or not.
- We ‘determine the weather’ for students.

We chose this profession.
We must continually re-commit.
The “Not Me” Syndrome
‘Inappropriate’ MySpace Account

Punching a student

Inappropriate Relations
Borrowed from An Educational Attorney:

Rules for Staff

- Electronic communication with students should be about school.
- Electronic communications with students should be on school-supported technology.
- Urge teachers to refrain from communicating with students through social networking sites, blogs, e-mails, or texts unless supported by school.
- Counsel employees on appropriate use and making good decisions.
Borrowed from An Educational Attorney:

Top 10 Things NOT to post on Facebook

9. Personal contact information.
8. Picture of you in a bathing suit.
7. Naked pictures of anyone.
6. Pictures of your principal/supervisor as a cartoon character.
5. Pictures of you partaking of alcohol.
4. Pictures of you kissing someone that is not your spouse/significant other.
3. Pictures of you kissing your spouse or significant other.
2. Your opinion of your school board/principal, etc.
1. Flirtations, teasing with students (Don’t be their “Friends.”)
You can and will be a memorable teacher…
for all the right reasons!
The Power of Teaching

http://www.values.com/billboard-videos
They picked you. They trust you. Now do it.

Go forth and be amazing!

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