

Professional Responsibility in Education

VIRTUAL ONBOARDING FOR FIRST YEAR TEACHERS

Rocky Mountain School District

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3/2/2025

State
Code

School
Policies

Session Agenda

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- WELCOME/ICEBREAKER

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- WHY PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

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- CASE STUDY SCENARIOS: ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN TEACHING

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- STATE CODE OF PROFESSIONALISM & SCHOOL POLICIES

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- FINAL REFLECTION & NEXT STEPS

6

- CONTACT



Welcome and Icebreaker Activity

“Ethics In Action”

Description

- Participants will vote on an ethical scenario teachers might face.
- After voting, we'll discuss the results and connect them to real-world guidelines.

Objective

- Create early engagement in ethical decision-making.
- Encourage collaborative learning and discussion-based reflection.



Ethical Scenario: What Would You Do?

- Scenario:
 - [A parent emails you requesting confidential information about another student. How would you respond?](#)
- Options:
 - Share the information since the parent seems concerned.
 - Politely decline and explain confidentiality policies.
 - Forward the email to the principal for guidance.
- Discussion Prompt:
 - What are the ethical implications of each choice?



Why Professional Responsibility Matters

- **Key Points:**

- Professional responsibility includes trust, ethics, and legal considerations.
- Ethical conduct is critical for student well-being, school culture, and professional reputation.
- Real-world consequences: teacher suspensions, legal issues, community backlash.

- **Case Example:**

A teacher violated professional standards by sharing student information on social media, resulting in suspension.

- **Discussion Question:**

What are the biggest professional challenges teachers face today, and how can understanding ethical guidelines help navigate them?



Case Study Scenarios: Ethical Dilemmas in Teaching

1 Confidential Information

A parent emails you requesting confidential information about another student.

Discussion Questions:

- What are the ethical considerations?
- How would you respond based on district policies?

2 Social Media Dilemma

A teacher posts about students on personal social media.

Discussion Questions:

- What are the ethical considerations when posting about students online?
- How does this align with district social media guidelines?

3 Inappropriate Comments

A staff member observes a colleague making inappropriate comments about students.

Discussion Questions:

- What should you do if you witness unprofessional behavior by a colleague?
- How does this align with reporting obligations in the state code of ethics? 

Case Study Debrief

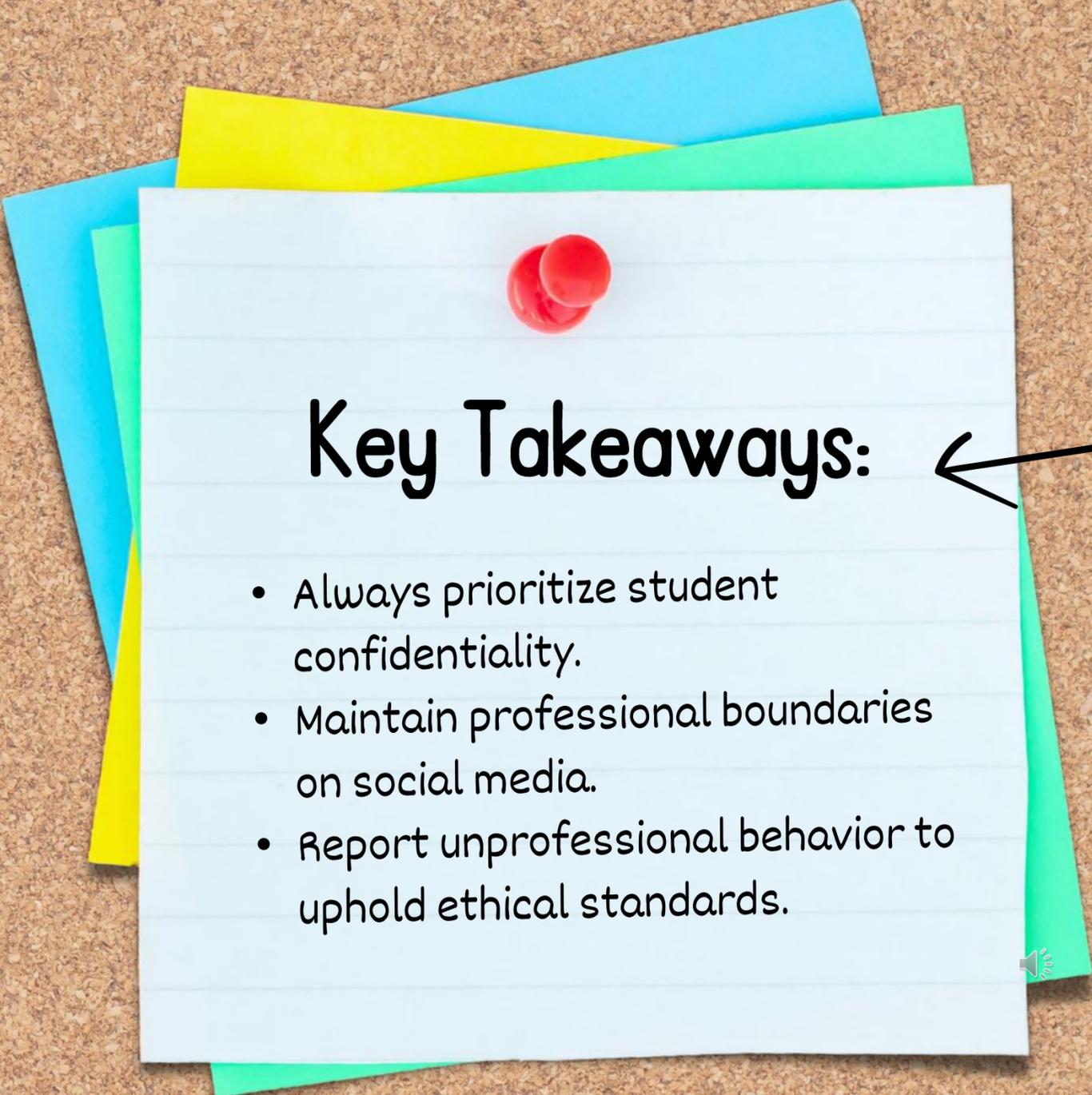


Present Discussions

Scenario 1 – Confidentiality Dilemma.

Scenario 2 – Social Media Dilemma.

Scenario 3 – Inappropriate
Comments.



Key Takeaways:

- Always prioritize student confidentiality.
- Maintain professional boundaries on social media.
- Report unprofessional behavior to uphold ethical standards.

State Code of Professionalism & School Policies

Activity

Review key sections of the state's code of ethics and district policies.

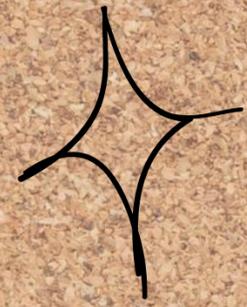
Key Policies

- Teacher conduct
- Confidentiality
- Reporting obligations

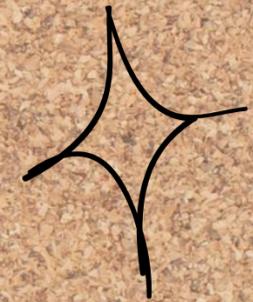
Objective

Ensure teachers understand and can apply professional responsibility guidelines.





Final Reflection & Next Steps



Activity

Complete a Google Docs reflection summarizing key takeaways and setting personal action steps.

Reflection Prompt

What is one key ethical principle that stood out to you today, and how will you apply it in your role?



Follow-Up Resources

Optional discussion board for continued peer interaction.





Thanks!

Thank you for participating in today's session on professional responsibility. Please take a moment to complete the

[Training Evaluation Form.](#)

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