

Ocala Christian Learning Academy 1428 E. Semoran Blvd., Ste. Ste 112, Apopka, FL 32703 Phone: 407-703-2207 Fax: 407-386-3252

Standards of Ethical Conduct

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- Our school values the worth and dignity of every person, the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, acquisition of knowledge, and the nurture of democratic citizenship. Essential to the achievement of these standards are the freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal opportunity for all.
- Our primary concern is the student and the development of the student's potential. Employees will, therefore, strive for professional growth and will seek to exercise the best professional judgement and integrity.

Concern for the student requires that our instructional personnel:

- shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or to the student's mental and/or physical health and/or safety.
- shall not unreasonably restrain a student from independent action in pursuit of learning.
- shall not unreasonably deny a student access to diverse points of view.
- shall not intentionally suppress or distort subject matter relevant to a student's academic program.
- shall not intentionally expose a student to unnecessary embarrassment r disparagement.
- shall not intentionally violate or deny a student's legal rights.
- shall not harass or discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicapping condition, sexual orientation, or social and family back-ground and shall make reasonable effort to assure that each student is protected from harassment or discrimination.
- shall not exploit a relationship with a student for personal gain or advantage.
- shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
- Aware of the importance of maintaining the respect and confidence of colleagues, of students, of parents, and of the community, employees of our school must display the highest degree of ethical conduct. This commitment requires that our employees:

shall maintain honesty in all professional dealings.

- shall not on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicapping condition if otherwise qualified, or social and family background deny to a colleague professional benefits or advantages or participation in any professional organization.
- shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political or civil rights and responsibilities.
- shall not engage in harassment or discriminatory conduct which unreasonably interferes with an individual's performance of professional or work responsibilities or with the orderly process of education or which creates a hostile, intimidating, abusive, offensive, or oppressive environment; and, further, shall make reasonable effort to assure that each individual is protected from such harassment.

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## **Training Requirement**

All employees, educational support, instructional personnel and administrators are required as a condition of employment to complete training on these standards of ethical conduct.

# **Reporting Misconduct by Instructional Personnel and Administration**

All employees, educational support, instructional personnel and administrators have an obligation to report misconduct by instructional personnel and school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student. Examples of misconduct include obscene language, drug and alcohol use, disparaging comments, prejudice or bigotry, sexul innuendo, cheating or testing violations, physical aggression, and accepting or offering favors.

Reports of misconduct of employees should be made to Pastor Louis Pfleger 407-408-0320.

Reports of misconduct committed by administrators should be made to **Principal Bryce Pfleger** 407-712-0475. Legally sufficient allegations of misconduct by Florida certified educators will be reported to the Office of Professional Practices Services.

Policies and procedures for reporting misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student are posted on **classroom bulletin board and on our website at claeagles resources**, **misc**.

## **Reporting Child Abuse, Abandonment or Neglect**

All employees and agents have an affirmative duty to report all actual or suspected cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect. Call 1-800-96-ABUSE or report online at <u>http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/report/</u>.

## Signs of Physical Abuse

The child may have unexplained bruises, welts, cuts, or other injuries; broken bones or burns. A child experiencing physical abuse may seem withdrawn or depressed, seem afraid to go home or may run away, shy away from physical conduct, be aggressive, or wear inappropriate clothing to hide injuries.

#### Signs of Neglect

The child may have unattended medical needs, little or no supervision at home, poor hygiene, or appear underweight. A child experiencing neglect may be frequently tired or hungry, steal food, or appear overly needy for adult attention.

#### Patterns of Abuse

Serious abuse usually involves a combination of factors. While a single sign may not be significant, a pattern of physical or behavioral signs is a serious indicator and should be reported.

#### **Liability Protection**

Any person, official, or institution participating in good faith in any act authorized or required by law, or reporting in good faith any instance of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect to the department or any law enforcement agency, shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability which might otherwise result by reason of such action (F.S. 39.203).

An employer who discloses information about a former or current employee to a prospective employer of the former or current

Employee upon request of the prospective employer or of the former or current employee is immune from civil liability for such disclosure or its consequences unless it is shown by clear and convincing evidence that the information disclosed by the former or current employer was knowingly false or violated any civil right of the former or current employee protected under F.S. Chapter 760. (F.S. 768.095).

Addendum to Standards of Ethical Conduct at the beginning of each school year, all employees will be required to attend a Standards of Ethical Conduct class. Additionally, all new employees who start after the class shall attend a Standards of Ethical Conduct class before beginning employment.