

Professional & Volunteer Standards for Chaperone Conduct



Walden teachers, administrators, and staff who serve as chaperones must abide by Utah Educator professional and ethical standards as outlined in Utah Code R277-515. The following guidelines provide only a brief overview of the rules contained in Utah's Educator Professional Standards. Chaperones should be familiar with R277-515 and should adhere to the rules therein at all times during school travel. A chaperone is never "off-duty" during extended travel.

The professional educator is required by Utah State law to serve as a role model of civic and societal responsibility. On school expeditions, you will be responsible for compliance with federal, state, and Utah laws and for upholding the laws of the country you are visiting.

The professional educator and volunteer:

- shall familiarize themselves with professional ethics and is responsible for compliance with applicable professional standards.
- may not engage in conduct of a sexual nature described in [Section 53A-6-405](#);
- may not provide to a student or allow a student under the educator's supervision or control to consume an alcoholic beverage or unauthorized drug;
- may not attend school or a school-related activity in an assigned supervisory capacity while possessing, using, or under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug;
- may not intentionally exceed the prescribed dosage of a prescription medication while at school or a school-related activity;
- shall strictly adhere to state laws regarding the possession of a firearm while on school property or at a school-sponsored activity and enforce an LEA policy related to student access to or possession of a weapon;
- may not solicit, encourage, or consummate an inappropriate relationship, whether written, verbal, or physical, with a student or minor;
- may not engage in grooming of a student or minor;
- may not participate in sexual, physical, or emotional harassment towards any public school-age student or colleague; or knowingly allow harassment toward a student or colleague;
- may not make inappropriate contact in any communication, including written, verbal, or electronic, with a minor, student, or colleague, regardless of age or location;
- may not interfere or discourage a student's or colleague's legitimate exercise of political and civil rights, acting consistent with law and LEA policy;
- shall be forthcoming with accurate and complete information to an appropriate authority regarding known educator misconduct that could adversely impact performance of a professional responsibility, including a role model responsibility, by himself or herself, or another

- shall not exclude a student from participating in any program or deny or grant any benefit to any student on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, marital status, political or religious belief, physical or mental condition, family, social, or cultural background, or sexual orientation; and
- may not engage in conduct that would encourage a student to develop a prejudice on the grounds described in Subsection (6)(c)(i) or any other, consistent with the law.
- An educator shall maintain confidentiality concerning a student unless revealing confidential information to an authorized person serves the best interest of the student and serves a lawful purpose;
- may not accept a bonus or incentive from a vendor or potential vendor or a gift from a parent of a student, or a student where there may be the appearance of a conflict of interest or impropriety;
- may not accept or give a gift to a student that would suggest or further an inappropriate relationship;
- may not accept or give a gift to a colleague that is inappropriate or furthers the appearance of impropriety.

CHAPERONE CODE OF CONDUCT

The following are expectations for ALL Walden Chaperones:

- All school rules apply on school-sponsored field trips. Chaperones are expected to comply with school policies, follow the directions given by the School Administrator, or Teacher-In-Charge, work cooperatively with other volunteers and school staff members.
- Model all behavior expectations, including sticking to the trail, positive “can do” attitude, willingness to take on new challenges, problem solving, etc. Students will imitate your behavior and attitude. If you have a complaint, please talk to a colleague and Director in private.
- Chaperones will familiarize themselves with the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and be prepared to enforce it as an expedition leader.
- All chaperones shall review, agree to and enforce expedition safety expectations and guidelines prior to expedition departure including but not limited to:
 - No students alone/without a buddy....ever....anywhere.
 - Students and chaperones may not go off trail (respect the wilderness and stay safe).
 - No students in front of or behind the lead and back chaperones.
 - The lead and back chaperones should always be a Walden employee.
 - Students may not scale, climb, or sit/stand on ledges, rocks, etc.
 - Students & Chaperones may not sit near or climb ledges or areas in which there is imminent risk of falling, injury or dying (ie, Dead Horse Point stay on paved paths, Stewart Falls, no climbing, etc).
 - Should a student require medical attention in your group, a Walden employee should be notified immediately. A chaperone should be ready and able to utilize and perform First Aid/CPR training and make emergency contact as medically necessary.
 - If a student is ill and unable to participate in planned activities, at least one chaperone must stay at the designated lodging area with the student. Students should not be left alone in a designated lodging area.
 - Chaperones are required to report any student injury or illness to the School Administrator, or Teacher-In-Charge immediately.

- On the trail, a volunteer chaperone may be asked to turn back with a student if the student is unable to complete the hike.
- For the protection of both the student and the chaperone, chaperones should not place themselves in situations in which they are alone with a student.
- In accordance with school policy, before or during the field trip, chaperones:
 - May not use or possess alcohol or other drugs;
 - May not use tobacco, alcohol or illegal substances on a school related expedition
- Chaperones must assume 24-hour responsibility for students from the time they leave the district until the time they are released to their parents/guardians.
- All chaperones will be in charge of night checks, cleaning checks and ensuring students are in their assigned areas/lodging.
- Each chaperone will be responsible for a group of students. They should familiarize themselves with that group of students, emergency contacts, health limitations and medications.
- Chaperones will be assigned responsibility for a specific room(s) and/or floor area within the designated lodging area (i.e., hotel, motel, camp ground, etc.)
- Chaperones may not retire until all students are in their rooms, all visiting between rooms has ceased, and the chaperones are certain that students are secure and safe in their respective rooms.
- Chaperones are expected to assist with supervising students in the hallways, lobby, and recreational areas of the designated lodging area. If students are allowed to use a pool in or near the designated lodging area, supervision by a lifeguard and/or CPR certified chaperone is always required.
- District staff must secure lodging in the same designated lodging area as students and chaperones.

Printed Name of Chaperone/Teacher

Signature of Chaperone / Date

Printed Name of School Official

Signature of School Official / Date