**24:11:03:01.  Code of ethics for professional administrators.** The professional administrator shall comply with the following code of ethics:

(1)  Make the well-being of the students the basis of decision making and action;

(2)  Enforce and obey local, state, and national rules and laws in the performance of duties;

(3)  Exemplify high moral standards by not engaging in or becoming a party to such activities as fraud, embezzlement, deceit, moral turpitude, gross immorality, illegal drugs, or use of misleading or false statements;

(4)  Respect the civil rights of those with whom the administrator has contact in the performance of duties;

(5)  Interpret, accurately represent, and implement the policies and administrative regulations of the appropriate educational governing board;

(6)  Distinguish personal politics, attitudes, and opinions from stated policies of the appropriate educational governing board;

(7)  Fulfill professional responsibilities with honesty and integrity;

(8)  Maintain professional relationships which are free from vindictiveness, willful intimidation, and disparagement;

(9)  Safeguard confidential information;

(10)  Not allow professional decisions or actions to be impaired or influenced by personal gain, gifts, gratuities, favors, and services made or withheld;

(11)  Avoid preferential treatment and conflicts of interest;

(12)  Honor all contracts until fulfillment, release, or dissolution by mutual agreement of all parties;

(13)  Apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position of responsibility on the basis of professional preparation and legal qualifications;

(14)  Accurately represent personal qualifications and the evaluations and recommendations of others;

(15)  Cooperate with authorities regarding violations of the codes of ethics of the South Dakota Professional Administrators Practices and Standards Commission and the South Dakota Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission.

**Source:** 13 SDR 3, effective July 22, 1986; 27 SDR 141, effective July 3, 2001.

**General Authority:** SDCL 13-43-45.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-43-45.