

## Annotation & Evaluation

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<b>Agey, Anasstasja</b>				
<b>AP6 - Ethics</b>				
<b>Status: Evaluated</b>				
<b>EVALUATION</b>				
	<b>Emergent</b>	<b>Bridging</b>	<b>Fulfilled</b>	<b>Profecency Level</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient  <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.E.1 Indicate knowledge of the Florida State Code of Ethics  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.E.2 Identify precautions that indicate the maintenance of a safe environment  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.E.3 Demonstrate knowledge of issues of privacy for students and families  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.E.4 Demonstrate knowledge of professional responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.B.1 Identify occurrences in the learning environment that relate to the Florida Sate Code of Ethics  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.B.2 Plan for precautions that could be taken to maintain a safe environment  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.B. 3 Develop strategies for maintaining confidentiality of information about students, families, and colleagues  <input type="checkbox"/> 6.B.4 Identify different types of professional responsibilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.F.1 Model adherence to the Florida Code of Ethics  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.F.2 Implement components of the plan to show actions taken to maintain precautions for a safe environment  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.F.3 Demonstrate ways that show respect for the privacy of students (P-12), families and colleagues and maintain confidentiality of information  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.F.4 Model professional responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary  <input type="checkbox"/> Emergent  <input type="checkbox"/> Bridging  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fulfilled
<b>Comments from Evaluator:</b> Good job. You described in detail what you did with your students to achieve your goals of maintaining a safe environment and respecting their privacy.				
<b>ANNOTATION</b>				
<b>1. Type and description of evidence(s) (e.g. assignments, activity)</b>				
<p>1st evidence- CT Summative Evaluation: This evidence is from my Level II Internship completed in Fall 2008. It documents my Cooperating Teacher's comments in regard to the rapport I have with my students, families, and professional colleagues.</p> <p>2nd evidence- Scope and Sequence Chart: This assignment satisfied a requirement for my Health &amp; PE for the Child course completed in Summer 2008. The purpose of the assignment was to create a curriculum map or scope and sequence chart to plan a developmentally appropriate unit on prevent violence. I chose to create my scope and sequence chart to meet the Sunshine State Standards for Health grades 3-5. The chart also details the concepts that will be covered in the unit such as pro-social behaviors, personal safety, bullying, anger management, and depression/stressors. These concepts align with corresponding skills that are expected to be learned at the completion of each unit concept.</p> <p>3rd evidence- Resume and Cover Letter: This resume and cover letter was initially designed in my Standards Based Education course in Fall 2007 and revised in Fall 2008 during my Level II Internship to more accurately represent the skills I have obtained during my education.</p> <p>4th evidence-</p>				

Ethics seminar activity: This activity was completed during one of my Level II seminars. During the seminar, we evaluated possible ethical violations with our group members and discussed the ramifications of each situation. We also identified the standards of the Ethics Code that were violated in the situation. The original activity was handwritten and I typed it out so that I could submit it to the portfolio for easy readability.

Updated 4/10/09

5th evidence-

Professional Behavior Assessment: This evaluation form was completed by my Cooperating Teacher and submitted to my University Supervisor during my Final Internship in Spring 2009. This form indicates that I maintain the highest of ethical behaviors during my internship by receiving competent plus in each outlined domain of performance.

2. How did the evidence(s) address the Accomplished Practice? (Why are you using the evidence(s) to prove you met the practice and rubric criteria?)

The Summative Evaluation from my Cooperating Teacher meets the Accomplished Practice of Ethics because my cooperating teacher indicated that I was very professional. To directly quote her, she said: Annie did an excellent job. She always takes the initiative in offering and executing creative lessons. She has an excellent rapport with students as well as faculty. She is very responsible and is always willing to go that extra step. She would be an asset to any classroom! This comment from my cooperating teacher indicated that I was responsible and professional. I received the highest possible score of 4 for each section under ethics. Some of the professional responsibilities I modeled during my internship included a sense of dependability and responsibility, adherence to the Florida Code of Ethics, punctuality, and professional concern for students. I maintained this by volunteering in the school, attending morning meetings, and collaborating with colleagues on lessons to improve the educational experience of learners. I participated in these activities because I recognized that they were my inherent professional responsibilities.

2nd evidence-

Scope and Sequence Chart: The scope and sequence chart meets the Accomplished Practice of Ethics because it plans for precautions that could be taken to maintain a safe environment. This plan is designed to help students in the intermediate grades recognize triggers to violence and ways to prevent violence with conflict resolution strategies. It also discusses strategies for handling potentially dangerous situations outside of the classroom such as depression and abuse. Helping students learn how to identify these situations and learn to protect themselves from harm is a great way to create an environment in which it is expected that the classroom will be a safe place for learning. Though I did not have the opportunity to teach this unit, I was able to use some of the skills I learned in planning the unit to help me in my Level II Internship.

3rd evidence-

Resume and Cover Letter: The resume and cover letter meet the Accomplished Practice of Ethics because I directly model adherence to the Professional Code of Ethics for Florida Educators by "not misrepresenting one's own professional qualifications" (Ethics code 5g) and "not submitting fraudulent information on any document in connection with professional activities" (Ethics code 5h). I accurately developed this resume knowing that "complete honesty in all professional dealings" (Ethics code 5a) was an unconditional responsibility to model as a professional educator. My intention is to show with this evidence that I am a consummate professional. It is important as an ethical person to maintain complete honesty about your skills, background, experiences, and accolades. I would have nothing to gain from misrepresenting my credentials.

4th evidence-

Ethics seminar reflection: This evidence meets the Accomplished Practice of Ethics because I directly address the professional standard of maintaining confidentiality. The activity called for each group to evaluate a given situation and discuss the ethical ramifications with our group members. The situation we were assigned dealt with an intern who was being harassed by the coach to release the grades of a student in her class. The intern maintains her professional demeanor by explaining that she cannot disclose this information because she does not have the authority to provide him with it. The coach tells her that she is unprofessional and it will cost her. My peers and I agreed that the intern was acting ethically and in the best interests of the student. Ethics code 3i indicates that she "shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law". However, the coach violated a number of Ethics codes in the scenario including "engaging in harassment" (5d), "making intentionally malicious statements" (5e), and "coercive means" (5f) to influence the intern to hand over the grades. It was her professional responsibility to withhold this information. Therefore, the coach violated the Ethics code because he did not respect the intern or the privacy of the student and his family. According to FERPA (Family Education Rights and Protection Act), schools must have written permission from the family to release confidential information such as grades. It is possible that the coach can say that he had a legitimate interest in the student's achievement, however it is not known if he had explicit permission from the parents to have access to these grades.

Updated 4/10/09

5th evidence:

Professional Behavior Assessment: This evidence meets the Accomplished Practice of Ethics because the evaluation form verifies that I have consistently modeled adherence to the Florida Code of Ethics by maintaining a professional demeanor with my students, parents, and professional colleagues. My Cooperating Teacher indicates that I model the code of ethics competently by demonstrating care and concern for my students by staying late and arriving early to plan, attending every and all meeting to enhance my professional development and make me a better teacher, and advocating for each student in my class.

3. Answer the question below that best fits your evidence

a - If your evidence involved your direct work with (P-12) students, answer this question: How did the evidence/s impact students' (P-12) learning? (How would/did the evidence(s) help students learn?)

b - If your evidence did not involve your direct work with (P-12) student, answer this question: How could the evidence/s impact students' (P-12) learning? How could the evidence(s) help (P-12) students learn?)

a- This semester, I worked very hard to win the respect of my students and colleagues. I participated in team meetings and conferences, arrived early and stayed late to plan, collaborated with the teacher next door to implement a science review and exam with her class and mine, and attended virtually every morning meeting that pertained to the 4th/5th grade curriculum and FCAT. The role of a teacher is one in which you are expected to be a positive role model. You represent that school community with your attitude and character. When I spoke to parents, I made sure that I shook their hands, introduced myself, and told them how much I enjoyed working with their child. Any information about students and their families that I was made aware of was kept in confidence (Ethics Code 3i). For example, I had two students who were in foster care and it was important for me to not only ensure a safe environment by making them feel accepted and welcome, but to also hold this information about their lives in confidence between the individual students, myself, and the teacher. Building trust between me and my students was my number one priority during my internship. This mutual trust made my classroom a safe place. I knew that if I one my students came in upset what to expect and how to help them. Even if things were uncertain in their lives, they knew that they would always have a place in the classroom (Ethics Code 3a). It is important to note that what you do in your community makes as big an impact as what you do in your classroom. I maintained a consistently positive rapport with students, faculty, and staff by being ethical, polite, and prompt. I volunteered to help out at the school's Fall Festival just because they needed the extra hands and I wanted the opportunity to show parents, students, and staff that I cared about the school community. I never engaged in gossip with other teachers or tolerated gossip from my students. This impacted my students because they knew I had become a part of their school community. My team teachers asked me to volunteer for the class field trip in a couple of weeks so that I could continue to function as a part of their school community. In order to effectively work with school personnel and colleagues it is imperative to maintain a good attitude, show initiative, and be a willing participant of the team.

b- Though I was unable to teach this Health unit, the skills I learned from developing the unit helped me work with the students in my Level II Internship to resolve their conflicts respectfully and safely. I had the opportunity to utilize conflict resolution strategies directly following the 2008 Election. My students were divided because of the candidate they supported and were throwing out hurtful accusations to one another. This was especially heated because one of my students accused a few of her classmates of being racist for supporting the candidate she did not and then other students were throwing accusations of sexism. In fact, threats of physical violence were insinuated and this worried me a great deal. That day, we had a class meeting discussing the importance of respecting the values of others. I explained that any accusatory and hurtful language would not be tolerated and that despite our differences we must respect that whomever we voted for was our democratic right, not to be judged by other people. I met directly with the students who were using accusatory language and asked them to explain why they were saying such hurtful things to one another. After each student had a chance to speak, I mediated and said that it was important for them to talk about this. I asked them to remember to value and respect the beliefs of others without being hurtful. I told them that it was okay to disagree, but they should never use words that promote hatred or division. The students agreed that it was unfair to say those things, but they had become very involved in the candidate they believed in. I felt that this was an exercise in diversity, acceptance, tolerance, and mediation for all students involved. They learned that it is never okay to use hurtful language and that if they disagree, they must do this on respectful terms. The environment in my classroom changed shortly after and luckily, these students went back to working together and talking respectfully as they had done before. Modeling respect, acceptance, and tolerance was integral to helping to maintain a safe environment during a situation which could have easily escalated into physical violence.

b- The resume was not implemented in the classroom. Even so, detailing my professional credentials in an accurate manner models that I am an honest person. We must model this honesty with our own students and set expectations for them to maintain honesty as well. During my internships, I always emphasized to students that I would never tolerate cheating because it showed that they were acting dishonestly and misrepresenting their work. If I require my students to hold these standards, I must also hold myself accountable to uphold the honesty and integrity that is characteristic of the profession.

b- This activity was done during a seminar and therefore not implemented in a K-12 class. However, the knowledge gained from completing this activity impacts my students. It is crucial for me to maintain confidential information about my students. As a teacher I will have access to many records that contain sensitive information about families, colleagues, and students. Therefore, my professional responsibility requires me to hold this information unless I receive a judicial subpoena or direct written parental consent to release it. In the seminar we also considered the ways privacy issues can impact colleagues. We discussed a situation in which an intern told her peer in confidence that she did not approve of her teacher's approach in the classroom. This information unfortunately came back to the cooperating teacher and required the intern to leave her internship at that school. In professional dealings with our colleagues, we must always consider that any information will incriminate someone should not be discussed because gossip leads to unfortunate and unprofessional circumstances that hurt the person who discussed it.

Updated 4/10/09

a- My Cooperating Teacher references an incident in which a child confided in me that she was in an abusive home situation. After discussing the situation with my Cooperating Teacher, I headed straight to the guidance office and discussed the proper action to take to ensure the safety of the child. I have learned that to maintain a safe environment and be a teacher that models the Florida Code of Ethics requires you to sometimes do things that make you uncomfortable or nervous. Though I had planned for such a scenario, it does not hit you until you actually have to report abuse. I had to put aside my own anger and judgment to make sure that this child was safe. In order to protect this child, I had to ensure that her allegations were reported to the appropriate authorities. Part of ensuring that students are safe in your class is taking them seriously when they report an abusive home situation. My role as an ethical professional requires me to uphold my responsibility to maintain the safety of every child in my class. Because I sincerely care about my students' welfare, the classroom environment is both emotionally and physically safe even when their home lives sometimes are not. It is important for teachers to prepare for instances such as this and be aware of the channels to reporting such scenarios to the appropriate authorities. This experience has taught me how to implement strategies to ensure a safe classroom because true learning takes place when the child feels safe and respected by their teacher and peers.

4. Reflect on what you learned about this Accomplished Practice? (Write a reflection about what it means to you now that you've selected evidence(s) and have written this annotation about it)

In my Level II Internship, I learned that part of being a professional requires me to take on a variety of responsibilities. You are required to be a model of good character in your classroom, school, and community. I was able to develop a rapport with families, students, and colleagues because I was ethical in all of my dealings and made a commitment to stand out as a trustworthy and reliable individual.

I learned that planning for a safe environment is a necessity to ensure optimal learning. When students learn to resolve conflict in healthy ways, there is more time for learning because they feel safe, valued, and respected.

While writing my resume, I learned that it was important to accurately represent myself in a way that was honest because if I misrepresent my credentials I will be expected to do things I am not capable of and will almost certainly be found out to be a fraud. To me, this is the ultimate in professional failure. I will continue to be honest and proud of my accomplishments, but will always represent myself to potential employers honestly.

Attending this seminar helped me really appreciate the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of information pertaining to students, families, and colleagues. This is a professional responsibility that requires teachers to spare students, families, and colleagues from potential embarrassments or problems. Without due cause, under no situation will I ever disrespect the privacy of each person. I have had experience with this before in a previous job when I worked at my community college. Under no circumstances were we to release information about students without direct written consent or judicial subpoenas because we knew, other than severe reprisal for violating the student's privacy, we were holding ourselves to an ethical standard of professionalism that we were proud of and had no desire to break. I carry that spirit with me as I enter the profession of teaching because I aim to be someone who can be a model teacher that adheres to the standards of my career to protect my students, families, and colleagues.

Updated 4/10/09

This semester allowed me to grow as a professional. I feel that I truly understand my professional duties as a teacher and that I can continue to be a model of professional ethics to my students, parents, and colleagues. The incident with the child and her abusive home situation really helped me understand the precautions one must take to ensure a safe environment. If she did not feel safe with me, she may have never spoken up about what was going on at home. I feel that anytime I have a concern about my professional responsibilities I can always turn to the code of ethics to ensure I am performing to the highest standards of ethical accountability.

**Status:** Evaluated **Last Modified:** 04/28/2009