

## Mesa Public Schools

### FIELD EXPERIENCE AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT PRACTITIONER

As a student practitioner who seeks field experience to complete my university or college course or degree requirements, I acknowledge and agree to the following:

1. My field experience opportunity requires prior approval of (i) a qualified employee who will act as my mentor and (ii) the approval of the principal of the school where I will complete my field experience.
2. I will not begin my field experience until I provide to the Mesa Public Schools (MPS) Human Resources Department (i) an executed copy of this Field Experience Agreement and (ii) a copy of my fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety. I will also complete any application and provide any information requested by the MPS Human Resources Department to determine my fitness to work with children.
3. I will work at all times under the supervision of my mentor. If my mentor is unable to serve as a mentor, for any reason, the District may attempt to find another mentor. However, if a suitable replacement cannot be found, the field experience will be terminated.
4. If I am a student teacher, I will attend Student Teacher Orientation presented by the Mesa Public Schools Human Resources Department.
5. Even though I am not an employee of the District, I agree to comply with the policies and procedures that give employees direction and govern the conditions and expectations of their employment that are based on state and/or federal laws. I will give particular attention to the following laws and policies:

A.R.S. § 13-3620 – Reporting Child Abuse: Employees who, when acting in the scope of their employment, develop a reasonable belief that a minor has been or is the victim of child abuse (i.e., non-accidental injury, sexual abuse, or neglect) must immediately report or cause a report to be made to a police officer or the Department of Child Safety (DCS). A report may be made by telephone or in person and must be followed by the completion of an MPS OnBase Child Abuse Report to document that suspected abuse was reported. For additional information, see Governing Board Policy JHG and the District’s Child Abuse Reporting Protocol.

GBCX – Workplace Harassment – Employees: Workplace harassment, including sexual harassment, of or by employees is prohibited. Any employee who believes he or she has been harassed should lodge a complaint with an appropriate supervisor or the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.

GBH – Staff-Student Relations: When exercising general supervision over the conduct of students, employees will treat students with dignity and respect. Employees also must observe and maintain professional boundaries between themselves and students. Examples of professional boundary violations include:

- Discussing with a student sexual topics that are not related to a specific curriculum.
- Discussing with the student the employee’s problems that would normally be discussed with adults (e.g., marital problems).
- Giving a student a ride in the employee’s personal vehicle without express permission of the student’s parent or school administrator.

- Taking a student on an outing without obtaining prior express permission of the student’s parent or school administrator.
- Giving gifts of a personal nature to a specific student.
- Using phone calls, e-mail, text messaging, or social networking sites to discuss with a student a matter that does not pertain to the student’s homework, class activity, school club, or other school-sponsored activity.

GBKB – Drugs and Alcohol: The District facilitates a safe environment for students, employees, and the community by requiring a drug-free workplace mandated by state and federal laws. Criminal arrests or charges relating to drug or alcohol abuse must be reported to the District within 48 hours.

GBKC/JFCJ – Dangerous Instruments and Deadly Weapons: Dangerous instruments and deadly weapons are prohibited on District property and at District events. Persons using, displaying, or knowingly carrying or possessing any dangerous instrument or deadly weapon, without authorization, will be subject to discipline.

GBSA – Employee Computer and Internet Use: Employees are to use District computers, networks, and Internet services for school-related purposes and the performance of job duties. Any employee who violates this policy or the rules governing use of District computers is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. Illegal uses of District computers will also result in referral to law enforcement authorities.

JO – Student Records: Student education records, and the information therein, are confidential and must not be divulged without parental consent except as specifically authorized by policy.

6. I will seek the advice of my mentor or school principal if I have any questions about my proposed conduct that may violate any of the foregoing laws or policies and acknowledge that the District may terminate my field experience if I violate any of the foregoing state laws or District policies or engage in any other conduct that calls into question my fitness to work with students.

Student Practitioner:

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Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature