Professional Boundaries Checklist

Taking an Undue Interest in a Particular Student:
1. Favoring certain students by giving them special privileges.
2. Favoring certain students, inviting them to come to the classroom at non-class times.
3. Getting a particular student out of class to visit the teacher during the teacher’s prep period.
4. Engaging in peer-like behavior with students.

Using Poor Judgment in Relation to a Particular Student:
5. Allowing a particular student to get away with inappropriate behavior.
6. Being alone with the student behind closed doors at school.
7. Giving gifts or money to the student.
8. Being overly “touchy” with certain students or touching students for no educational or health reason.
9. Giving students rides in the educator’s personal vehicle, especially alone.
10. Frequent electronic communication or phone contacts with a particular student.

Becoming Involved in the Student’s Private Life:
11. Talking to the student about the educator’s personal problems.
12. Talking to the student about the student’s personal problems to the extent that the adult becomes a confidant of the student when it is not the adult’s job role to do so.
13. Initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day.
14. Taking a particular student on outings, especially personal outings, away from protective adults.
15. Using e-mail, text-messaging, instant messaging, or social networking to discuss personal topics or interests with students.

Not Respecting Normal Boundaries:
16. Invading the student's physical privacy (e.g., walking in on the student in the bathroom).
17. Inviting students to the teacher’s home.
18. Visiting the student’s home.
19. Asking the student to keep certain things secret from his/her parents.

Sexually Related Conduct:
20. Engaging in sex talk with students (sexual innuendo, sexual banter, or sexual jokes).
21. Talking with a student about sexual topics that are not related to a specific curriculum.
22. Showing pornography to the student.
23. Hugging, kissing, or other affectionate physical contact with a student.

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