

# Living Word Christian School

2900 North Tamiami Trail  
North Fort Myers, Florida 33903

## Ethics in Education Statement

As a participating private school in the McKay Scholarship and CTC Scholarship Program, the State of Florida and the Department of Education requires the policies and procedures for reporting misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student be posted on this website. L.W.C.S. is in complete agreement with any directive that will help protect our children. Also, L.W.C.S. employees must sign an Affidavit of Good Moral Character, provide impeccable references, and submit fingerprints electronically that will conduct a comprehensive local and nationwide level 2 criminal background check through the FBI and Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) using the Volunteer & Employee Criminal History System (VECHS). There are also several other steps taken by L.W.C.S. to be sure that our students are in the safest environment possible.

Please read the following mandate carefully.

### *Reporting Educator Misconduct Florida Statutes And Rules*

Florida Statutes s. 1006.061 states all employees and agents of the district school board, charter schools and private schools that accept scholarship students, have an obligation to report misconduct by an instructional personnel member or school administrator

Florida Statutes s. 1012.33 outlines disciplinary procedures regarding district employment contracts with instructional personnel staff, supervisors and school principals

Florida Statutes s. 1012.795 provides the Education Practices Commission the authority to issue disciplinary action against an individual's Florida Educator certificate

Florida Statutes s. 1012.796 provides authority for the Department of Education to investigate and prosecute allegations of educator misconduct

Florida Statute s. 1012.01 defines public school instructional personnel, administrative personnel, school volunteers, education support employees and managers

State Board of Education Rule 6B-1.001 defines the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in Florida

State Board of Education Rule 6B-1.006 defines the Principals of Professional Conduct of the Education Profession in Florida

## *HOW TO REPORT MISCONDUCT*

Report allegations or suspicion of misconduct by an instructional personnel member to your school administrator or district contact

Report allegations or suspicion of misconduct by your school administrator to your district contact

Document the activities or details of the event.

Secure evidence (if applicable)

Contact:           Senior Pastor           John Allison  
                      School Principal       Phyllis Allison  
                      School Board Member   Sean Leverone

## *IF SOMEONE TELLS YOU ABOUT MISCONDUCT, BE A LEADER*

**L**isten  
**E**valuate  
**A**ct immediately  
**D**ocument  
**E**ncourage  
**R**eport

## *WHO SHOULD REPORT MISCONDUCT?*

All employees and agents of a district school board, charter school or private school have a duty to report misconduct.

If you are aware of or observe misconduct -- REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY!

## *WHO SHOULD YOU REPORT?*

Classroom teachers	Paraprofessionals
Substitute teachers	Librarians, guidance counselors and social workers
Career specialists and school psychologists	Principals, Assistant Principals and Deans

## *Failure to Report Misconduct*

Written Reprimand	Suspension with or without pay
Termination of employment	Discipline/Sanctions on an educator's certificate

## *Identifying and Reporting Professional Misconduct*

The following behavior may be an indication of misconduct that should be reported:

- being alone with a student in dark, closed room or secluded area
- acting in an excessively friendly or familiar way
- not maintaining an appropriate professional boundary with a student
- using forceful or needless physical contact with a student
- administering discipline not compliant with school policy
- accepting or offering of gifts for return of a favor or privilege from students or colleagues
- badgering or consistently teasing a student
- belittling a student
- constantly embarrassing a student
- displaying prejudice against a student
- being under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- failing to properly supervise students or to ensure student safety
- cheating, falsifying information or testing violations
- retaliating against a student or colleague for reporting misconduct
- bantering or engaging in colloquial communications with a student
- directing or using profane or offensive language in the presence of students
- making lewd or suggestive comments or overtures toward a student or colleague

### *Apply the litmus test*

If you feel uncomfortable

If you question the person's motives or actions

If you are unsure

### *Protect the students*

### *Protect yourself*

### *Report*