# Ensuring Understanding of Professional Conduct: Professional Relationships with Students

**Directions:** The following scenarios illustrate common situations that educators might find themselves in when professional conduct comes into question. Read the following scenarios with a partner and decide whether each educator upheld the fundamental principles outlined in the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio Educators. If not, identify steps the educator could have taken to mitigate risks.

1. A high school English teacher uses an online communication tool to send a group reminder about an upcoming project deadline to all of his students. One student sends him a private message asking for his phone number so she can ask specific questions about the project because she is feeling stressed out. The teacher responds and tells her to see him in the morning before school starts. The student continues to message the teacher because she needs his help immediately. Sensing her frustration and desire to do a good job on her project, and not wanting all of his students to continue getting notifications, the teacher gives her his cell phone number. The teacher begins to send text messages to the student and keeps the conversation focused on her project.
2. Two students get into an argument while in gym class. As the bell rings to switch, the PE teacher tells them, “You need to settle this argument on your own time.”
3. A classroom teacher realizes that she did not make copies of the homework assignment for the class. She tells the class to read a book silently while she quickly runs to the office to make copies. While the teacher is gone, a student falls backwards from his chair and hits his head.