Slide 1  Professional Demeanor:
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“ Dorothy and her friends trenched through the dark forest, encountered lions and tigers and bears, and dodged flying monkeys to get to the Land of Oz only to find out that Oz himself was not all what he was cracked up to be.”
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“Are you putting your best face forward? Are you presenting yourself as you want to be seen?”

Slide 2  “Demeanor is defined as the way a person acts toward other people including behavior, conduct and appearance.”

Slide 3  “The three basic tenets that are included in professional demeanor are Professional Appearance and Attitude, Respect for Diversity and Reliability and Ethics. We will look at each of these from a teacher’s point of view.”

If at any time, you would like to review over one of the basic tenets, you may click on the words in the appropriate circle on this diagram.

Slide 4  Professional appearance and attitude

Slide 5  “You have surely heard that you never get a second chance to make a first impression. Although this may sound cliché, it is very true. Based on appearance, body language, demeanor, mannerisms, and dress, it takes just a quick glance for people to evaluate other people when they meet them for the first time. Once an impression is formed, it can be nearly impossible to reverse or undo it, which makes this first encounter extremely important.”

Slide 6  A picture is worth a thousand words. The first thing we think about when talking about appearance is appropriate dress. This does not mean that you must always look like you just stepped out of Vogue or GQ magazine, unless you are interviewing with a modeling agency! However, you must present yourself appropriately. You must be sure that your attire is appropriate for the occasion whether it be a day in the classroom, a meeting with parents or a visit with the state superintendent. In addition, you must consider the appropriateness of body piercings and body art. Whereas you do not have to totally conform or lose your individuality, it is important to “fit in” to some degree. What is important to remember is that you must dress, look and act the part for the given situation. You may express your individuality within the proper context.”

Slide 7  “Smile and the world smiles too! You must keep in mind that your attitude shows in everything you do; hence when you are working in a professional setting, you must be sure to work to keep a positive attitude. One way to do this is to put a smile on your face as often as possible. Often we can help control our inner feelings with our outer body language. Positive body language is also a sure fire way to project a confidence and self-assurance. So stand tall, smile, make eye contact and greet others with a firm handshake.”

Slide 8  Respect of Diversity: “It is the responsibility of a teacher to not only understand and accept diversity, but also to respect and celebrate diversity. The United States of America was discovered as a result of a few brave men (and women) who traveled the land and the seas to find a place where freedom could ring.
Slide 9  “As a result, this wonderful country inhabits a vast variety of cultures, religious beliefs, races, moral and ethical views, family make-ups, and nationalities. This just begins to touch on the diversity that is found within the walls of a school. We must also keep in mind such things as gender, sex, learning styles, and special needs of people with whom we work, whether they are students, parents, colleagues and/or community members. A teacher must be open and accepting of differences and must remain non-judgmental at all times.”

Slide 10 Reliability and Ethics

Slide 11 “The word reliable means, ‘worthy of trust’. In order to be a professional, one must possess the qualities of reliability. Let’s look at the top eleven countdown of descriptions of a reliable practitioner.”

Slide 12 R= Resourceful
   A professional teacher must be resourceful with both materials and ideas.

Slide 13 E= Ethical
   The teaching profession requires the constant responsibility of being a role model.

Slide 14 L= Limits stress and frustration and responds to these feelings with poise
   Regardless of the profession chosen, one must realize that emotions play a part in each of our days.

Slide 15 I = Independent Worker
   One must be confident in his or her work in order to work well both in a group setting and independently.

Slide 16 A = Accepts responsibility for successes and mistakes.
   A successful teacher is one who celebrates successes and accepts the challenge of improving in areas that are of weakness.

Slide 17 B = Believable
   Part of being reliable is being truthful, trustworthy, and loyal to oneself and others.

Slide 18 I = Initiative is taken on regular occasions
   Taking initiative means knowing when to stand up and take control of a situation or a task. One must be confident in his or her abilities in order to take initiative and follow through.

Slide 19 L= Leadership
   Leaders should possess all qualities of professionalism.

Slide 20 I = Integrity
   In order to show true professionalism, one must adhere to a strict, moral, and ethical code.

Slide 21 T= Takes responsibility to complete tasks and duties on time without prompting
   It is the responsibility of the professional to know what needs to be done and to do so in a timely manner.

Slide 22 Y= Yes, a teacher must be all of these things while constantly adhering to standards!
Professional appearance and attitudes, respect for diversity, and reliability and ethics all play an important role in the life of a professional teacher. If Dorothy and her friends traveled far and wide to find you, would they find a teacher with a professional demeanor rather than a ‘man behind the curtain’?