2019 Annual Report
South Dakota Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission

The Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission hereby files this report with the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education.

The Commission is charged with the responsibility of reviewing possible violations of the code of ethics for teachers. When the Commission determines that cause exists to believe a teacher has violated the code of ethics, the Commission holds a contested case hearing. Ultimately, the Commission may reprimand or recommend a disciplinary action which may be implemented by the appropriate governing body against a member of the teaching profession if the member has been determined by the Commission to have violated the code of ethics established under SDCL 13-43-25 and found in ARSD 24:08:03. If the Commission determines that proceedings to revoke or suspend the certificate of a teacher should be instituted, the Commission files a written complaint with the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education.

During calendar year 2019, the Commission received six complaints. The commission met on six occasions and reviewed the 12 complaints that were pending at the end of 2018, and the six complaints filed in 2019. The Commission held six contested hearings in 2019.

Ten of the complaints from 2018 were dismissed prior to a hearing, one complaint from 2018 received a private reprimand, one 2018 complaint was dismissed after a hearing.

Two of the complaints from 2019 were dismissed prior to a hearing, one was dismissed after a hearing, and three were referred to the secretary of education: two for suspension and one for revocation.

There were no complaints pending at the end of 2019.

Dated: 4-27-2020

Paula McMahan

Paula McMahan Chairman
Professional Teachers Practices & Standards Commission