

**2020 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 2020, the Commission received thirteen complaints. The commission met on seven occasions and reviewed eleven of the 13 complaints filed in 2020. The Commission held six contested hearings in 2020.

Five of the complaints from 2020 were dismissed prior to a hearing, one complaint from 2020 received a private reprimand, two of the complaints received stipulated agreements, and three were referred to the Secretary of the Department of Education: one for suspension and two for revocation.

There were two complaints pending at the end of 2020.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Paula McMahan Chairman  
Professional Teachers Practices & Standards Commission