



## Southwest Minnesota State University School of Education Professional Dispositions Growth Plan

The Professional Dispositions adopted by the Southwest Minnesota State University School of Education promote and support professionalism as outlined in state and national standards. These dispositional statements represent one of the foundational tenets of the SMSU Teacher Preparation Program.

These dispositional standards identified are developed in conjunction with the School of Education Conceptual Framework, Standards of Effective Practice, and are incorporated throughout the Teacher Preparation Program. Specifically, dispositions are patterns of behaviors and actions that occur frequently and in the absence of coercion, and constitute “habits of mind and heart.” They are intentional and directed toward particular people and situations, in order to achieve goals. Teacher Education must model and support the development of desirable dispositions and provide opportunities to weaken or eliminate undesirable dispositions. Dispositions that apply the knowledge and skills of teaching and learning are critical to becoming an effective candidate.

Such dispositions valued by the Teacher Preparation Program include, but are not limited to:

- **Enthusiastic:** Shows eagerness and enjoyment working with all stakeholders.
- **Respectful:** Treats everyone with respect and maintains appropriate boundaries.
- **Student-Centered:** Focuses on planning, instruction, and assessment to meet the diverse needs of all learners.
- **Problem-Solver:** Uses patience, deductive reasoning, and common sense to arrive at equitable solutions.
- **Leader:** Shows initiative and inspires others through their leadership qualities.
- **Receptive:** Listens and considers the viewpoints of others to enhance collaborations.
- **Communicator:** Expresses thoughts clearly and tactfully to all stakeholders when using non-verbal, verbal, and written communication.
- **Reflective Practitioner:** Uses inquiry and research in pursuit of lifelong learning. Employs reflection and feedback to gain self-awareness to grow as an educator.
- **Resilient:** Embodies the ability to persevere through adversity and setbacks.
- **Embracer of Diversity:** Embraces a culturally responsive perspective in both teaching and learning to promote social justice and believes diversity enhances the classroom.
- **Responsible:** Demonstrates dependability, punctuality, and efficiency.
- **Professional:** Presents self in a professional manner through one's cleanliness, appropriate attire, and ethical actions.
- **Honest:** Demonstrates honesty and integrity in all interactions.



# School of Education Professional Dispositions Growth Plan

This form is to be used only in the situation where faculty or staff in the School of Education observes a student in violation of one of the dispositions expressed in the Professional Dispositions statements or other forms of disposition evaluation used by the Teacher Preparation Program.

Please complete the form entirely and submit to the Advisor **after discussion with the teacher candidate**. The Advisor will then give the form to the Department Chair to be placed in the teacher candidate advising file.

Teacher Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In the following area, please explain the context in which the situation occurred (e.g. course number or name, where occurred, specifically what transpired, date) and in relation to the specific disposition:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for Teacher Candidate:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Candidate response and plan for improvement:  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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Teacher Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School of Education Faculty/Staff: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School of Education Chair Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Action taken by Advisor:

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Advisor Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Follow-up to document improvement:

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Advisor Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken by Teacher Preparation Program:

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Program Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form will be given to the Department Chair to be placed in the Teacher Candidate's advising folder. This action may be appealed by writing a formal statement of appeal to the Chair of the School of Education. If an appeal is filed, the Chair will convene a faculty panel within ten (10) University business days to hear the appeal. Further appeals should be directed to the Dean of Business, Education, and Professional Studies following the usual SMSU appeal process.