



Southwest Minnesota State University School of Education Professional Dispositions Acceptance

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 SMSU 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 teacher.

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.
- **Student-Centered:** Exhibits a student-centered philosophy based on learner needs.
- **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.
- **Communicator:** Expresses thoughts clearly and tactfully to all stakeholders when using non-verbal, verbal and written communication.
- **Reflective Practitioner:** Uses inquiry, research, reflection, and feedback to grow as an educator and life-long learner.
- **Resilient:** Embodies the ability to persevere through adversity and setbacks.
- **Embracer of Diversity:** Embraces the challenge to learn from and about people from a culturally responsive perspective 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.

I have been informed on what the dispositions are, why the SMSU School of Education adopted the dispositions, when assessment can and will take place, who assesses candidates' dispositions, and the process for assessing and evaluating candidates' dispositions.

My signature affirms that I received, understand, and agree to the Southwest Minnesota State University School of Education Professional Dispositions and evaluation process.

Teacher Candidate Name: _____

Date: _____ Major: _____

Teacher Candidate Signature: _____