

# PROFESSIONAL COMPLAINT REPORTING

The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006 grants to the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation the authority to receive and review complaints regarding the conduct and practice of its members. This legislation, along with The Registered Teachers Act, The Education Act, 1995 and The Education Regulations, 1986, provides the framework for teacher regulation in Saskatchewan.

The Federation is required by law to refer all complaints that raise or potentially raise a question of professional misconduct or professional incompetence to the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board.

#### PROFESSIONAL COMPLAINTS PROCESS REGARDING STF MEMBERS

Federation members include all teachers, as defined in The Education Act, 1995, which includes principals, vice principals, and various other positions requiring a teaching certificate employed in a PreK - 12 Catholic, public or Francophone school in Saskatchewan.

To initiate a professional complaint regarding a member of the Federation, please complete, print and sign this form and forward it to:

Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Attention: Executive Director Professional Complaints Process 2317 Arlington Avenue Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8

If you have any questions or require assistance to complete this form, please contact the Federation at 1-800-667-7762 or 306-373-1660 in Saskatoon.

Upon receipt of the completed form, the Federation will:

- Open a professional complaint file.
- Send a letter of acknowledgement to the complainant(s).
- Send a letter and a copy of the complaint to the teacher who is the subject of the complaint.
- Forward a copy of the complaint and any relevant information to the Federation Professional Complaints Committee to initiate a professional complaint review.
- If the complaint raises or potentially raises a question of professional misconduct or professional incompetence, it will be referred to the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board.
- Following the review and any subsequent proceedings held, the Federation will:
- Send letters to inform the complainant(s) and the teacher who is subject of the complaint of the status of the complaint review and any subsequent proceedings.

#### Please Note:

Anyone who has reasonable grounds to believe that a child is being abused, neglected or in need of protection shall comply with any legal duty, pursuant to The Child and Family Services Act, or otherwise, to report the matter to the appropriate authority which may be a police officer or a child protection officer.

#### PROFESSIONAL COMPLAINTS PROCESS REGARDING NON-STF MEMBERS

If you have a professional complaint regarding a registered teacher as defined in The Education Act, 1995 which includes principals, vice principals, and various other positions requiring a teaching certificate employed in a PreK - 12 independent school or a federally funded school on reserve, please contact the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board.

If you have a professional complaint regarding an out-of-scope administrator working for a school division, please contact the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents.



# PROFESSIONAL COMPLAINT REPORTING

# **COMPLAINANT(S) INFORMATION** Name(s) Address Email Address: City/Town Postal Code Province Daytime Telephone I am a: ☐ Student ☐ Parent/Caregiver ☐ Teacher ☐ Administrator ☐ Community Member **TEACHER INFORMATION** Name School City/Town In one or two sentences, write out how your complaint pertains to the STF Code of Ethics or Standards of Practice stf.sk.ca > Teaching in Saskatchewan > Teacher Professionalism > Codes & Standards.

Provide a brief and clear description of the concern(s) you have about the teacher named in the complaint.  If additional space is required, please attach pages, that are signed and numbered, to this complaint form.				

SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT(S) Signature(s)				
х				
x				
х				
Date				
(Day/Month/Year, e.g., 31 JAN 2000)				

# **COMPLAINTS PROCESS**

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Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Attention: Executive Director Professional Complaints Process 2317 Arlington Avenue Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8



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# **Professional Ethics** and **Practice**

6.1 Preamble

6.1.1 The Code of Professional Ethics and Standards of Practice, set by the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Council, guide the:

- (1) Ethical behaviour and teaching practices of Federation members.
- (2) Decision making of the STF Executive regarding the disposition of professional complaints related to ethics and practice.
- (3) Hearings and decision making of the STF Ethics and Practice Committee.

## 6.2

#### **Code of Professional Ethics**

These are the ethical ideals for Saskatchewan teachers, expressed as commitments made by assuming the duties of a professional teacher within Saskatchewan's publicly funded public education system:

#### **Commitments to the Profession**

- 6.2.1 To act at all times in a way that maintains the honour and dignity of the individual teacher and the teaching profession.
- 6.2.2 To strive to make the teaching profession attractive and respected in ideals and practices.
- 6.2.3 To act in a manner that respects the collective interests of the profession.
- 6.2.4 To perform teaching duties competently in accordance with the profession's standards of practice and taking into consideration the given context and circumstances for teaching.

#### **Commitments to Teaching and Learning**

- 6.2.5 To provide professional service to the best of one's ability.
- 6.2.6 To treat each student justly, considerately and appropriately in accordance with the beliefs of the profession.
- 6.2.7 To respect the right of students to form their own judgments based upon knowledge.
- 6.2.8 To support each student in reaching their highest levels of individual growth across intellectual, social-emotional, spiritual and physical domains.
- 6.2.9 To respond generously and appropriately to colleagues seeking professional assistance.
- 6.2.**10** To evaluate the work of another teacher only at the request of the other teacher or when required by role as a supervisor.
- 6.2.**11** To protect the educational program from exploitation.

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#### **Commitments to the Community**

- 6.2.**12** To model the fulfilment of social and political responsibilities associated with membership in the community.
- 6.2.**13** To respect the various roles and responsibilities of individuals involved in the educational community.
- 6.2.14 To keep the trust under which confidential information is exchanged.
- 6.2.**15** To keep parents and the school community informed of and appropriately involved in decisions about educational programs.
- 6.2.**16** To inform an associate before making valid criticism and to inform the associate of the nature of the criticism before referring the criticism to appropriate officials.
- 6.2.17 To strive for the appropriate implementation and enforcement of legislation, regulations, bylaws and policies enacted by the Ministry responsible for PreK-12 education, school divisions and schools.
- 6.2.**18** To maintain awareness of the need for changes in the public education system and advocate appropriately for such changes through individual or collective action.

#### 6.3

#### **Standards of Practice**

These are the core principles of competent teaching practice for Saskatchewan teachers, expressed as commitments to standards of practice, each of which teachers may demonstrate in various ways throughout their careers:

#### **Commitments to Standards of Practice**

- 6.3.1 To create and maintain a learning environment that encourages and supports the growth of the whole student.
- 6.3.2 To strive to meet the diverse needs of students by designing the most appropriate learning experiences for them.
- 6.3.3 To demonstrate and support a repertoire of instructional strategies and methods that are applied in teaching activities.
- 6.3.4 To develop teaching practices that recognize and accommodate diversity within the classroom, the school and the community.
- 6.3.5 To carry out professional responsibilities for student assessment and evaluation.
- 6.3.6 To demonstrate a professional level of knowledge about the curriculum and the skills and judgment required to apply this knowledge effectively.
- 6.3.7 To implement the provincial curriculum conscientiously and diligently, taking into account the context for teaching and learning provided by students, the school and the community.
- **6.3.8** To reflect upon the goals and experience of professional practice and adapt one's teaching accordingly.
- 6.3.9 To work with colleagues in mutually supportive ways and develop effective professional relationships with members of the educational community.
- 6.3.**10** To conduct all professional relationships in ways that are consistent with principles of equity, fairness and respect for others in accordance with the beliefs of the profession.

### THE TEACHERS' FEDERATION ACT, 2006

Pursuant to Section 30 (Ethical Conduct) of The Teachers' Federation Act, 2006, the following conduct is also deemed to be a breach of the Code of Ethics for teachers:

- (a) wilfully taking, because of animosity or for personal advantage, any steps to secure the dismissal of another teacher;
- (b) wilfully circulating false reports, derogatory to any fellow teacher or to any other person directly associated with education in Saskatchewan;
- (c) maliciously, carelessly, irresponsibly or otherwise than in fulfilment of official duties, criticizing the work of a fellow teacher in such a way as to undermine the confidence of the public and students;
- (d) publishing or circulating any false or mischievous statement or entering into any collusive arrangement intended to circumvent or nullify any of the Acts of the Legislature pertaining to teachers or schools or any the regulations of the ministry.