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Four new members join Idaho’s Professional Standards Commission

(BOISE) – Four educators from across Idaho will begin three-year terms on the Professional Standards Commission July 1. Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra recommended them to the State Board of Education during Thursday’s board meeting, and all four were unanimously confirmed by the board.

The new PSC members, who will serve through June 30, 2023, are:

- Emma Wood, Idaho State University, representing Public Higher Education
- Paula Kellerer, Nampa School District, representing School Superintendents
- Ramona Lee, West Ada School District, representing Special Education Administrators
- Charmaine Van Buskirk, Lakeland School District, representing Secondary Classroom Teachers

“I am thrilled to recommend these accomplished, committed educators for the Professional Standards Commission, and I’m grateful they are willing to take on the responsibility of ensuring high professional standards for Idaho educators and upholding our Code of Ethics,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “Among the commission members’ duties are reviewing ethics complaints against their peers and determining disciplinary actions.”

Each of the new commission members was selected from three nominees in their professional organization. The PSC, an independent board established within the State Department of Education, meets five times per year. The commission makes recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding professional standards for educators and has the sole responsibility for disciplinary actions due to violations of the Code of Ethics.

The commission’s 18 members represent teachers and administrators from elementary and secondary schools, as well as professionals from school district administration, higher education, CTE, SDE, special education, exceptional child education and counseling. To learn more about the commission, educator standards and educator ethics, go to the PSC page of the State Department of Education website.

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