

Jefferson County Public Schools & Spalding University
Memorandum of Agreement
Spalding's Teacher Leader Master of Education (M.Ed) Program

Admission to the Program

Candidate's prerequisite qualifications

1. Bachelor's degree with from an accredited college or university with teaching certification
2. A 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale
3. Three (3) favorable letters of recommendation, one from a direct supervisor
4. Official scores of the GRE with a minimum score of 701

Process

1. A candidate will apply to the Teacher Leader Master of Education program through the university's graduate program office.
2. All applicants who meet the prerequisite qualifications will be screened by local school district and university personnel.
3. Candidates will successfully complete a writing sample activity.

Curriculum Requirements

1. Courses and field experiences are co-designed and co-delivered by university and district personnel. The co-delivery will be structured in such a way to ensure that state and national accreditation standards are met. (e.g. The curriculum will be aligned with the Kentucky Teacher Standards (Advanced-level, 2008)
2. Faculty requirements will meet SACS guidelines:
3. Curriculum will be organized around "What do teachers need to know and be able to do in their classrooms and in the school to make a positive impact on student achievement?"
4. Courses will be aligned to meet the needs of teachers so that they will improve student achievement in their school and school district.
5. Assignments will be designed to provide aspiring teacher leaders the opportunity to practice authentic P-12 teacher leadership activities. These will include observing, participating and leading.
6. Course activities and field experiences will expose a candidate to diverse student populations and school environments
7. At the end of coursework, teacher leader candidates will present will complete a Teacher Leader Capstone which is an action research thesis using student/school data to improve student achievement.. This thesis will be defended before a university program faculty and collaborating school administrator.

a) District and University Responsibilities

1. Districts:

1. May provide personnel to assist in delivery of courses and related course activities.
2. Will provide personnel to mentor and/or coach a candidate. Mentoring and coaching can take many forms from a one-time professional development experience to more of a long-term process
3. Will provide personnel (one) to serve on a review panel for the candidate's capstone project(s).
4. Will allow candidates access to aggregated school and district information and data.
5. Will allow candidates to participate in the continuum of school-based experiences ranging from observing, participating, and leading.
6. Will allow candidates to participate in school and district leadership activities.

2. Universities

1. Will provide program faculty for program co-design and co-delivery;
2. Provide program faculty to mentor and coach candidates;
3. Provide program faculty to serve on a review panel for the candidate's capstone project(s);
4. Collaborate with districts in providing high quality field experiences; and,
5. Develop and implement a continuous assessment system that informs decisions related to program components.

Reverly Peters, Dean 5/6/10
University Representative Date

Lynne Wheat, Director HR/ARD; Supt. Resignee 5/6/10
Superintendent Date