

Teacher Education Council (TEC)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 15, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Members Present: Marty Hatton, Brian Anderson, Shelley Bock, Rose Ford, Alina Harges, Chrystal Hodges, Melinda Lowe, Deana Pendley, Kendall Dunkelberg, Allene Nichols, Julia Mortykova, Erin Kempker, Bonnie Oppenheimer, Blanca Simmons Diez, David Carter, Erinn Holloway, Brandon Robinson, Christy Adams, Penny Mansell, Christi Dillon, Brittany Hunnicutt

Members Absent: Christy Adams, Leigh Todd, Jonathan Hooks

1.0 Forum: Guest Speaker

There were no guest speakers.

2.0 Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Marty Hatton, Chair of the Teacher Education Council.

3.0 Approval of February 22, 2021 Minutes

Mr. David Carter made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2021 meeting. Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer seconded the motion.

4.0 Approval of Agenda

Dr. Hatton presented the agenda for adoption with the following additions brought forward from Elementary Education Faculty: Dispositions Review Policy and Readmit Policy. Dr. Brian Anderson made the motion to approve the agenda, and Dr. Julia Mortykova seconded. The motion was adopted.

5.0 Unfinished Business

5.1 Key Assessments & EPP Surveys

All Key Assessments and EPP Surveys were emailed to TEC prior to the meeting. Dr. Hatton asked if there were any discussion or questions in regards to either the assessments or surveys. There were none voiced at the meeting. He encouraged anyone with any questions/concerns or to express approval to reach out to Dr. Shelley Bock prior to April 30th. Any action leading up to the 30th indicates approval of the assessments and when administered. If no additional changes or feedback are received, this will indicate a vote in favor of the processes as proposed. Dr. Hatton reminded the council that these key assessments are a critical part of the QAS and will be used EPP wide going forward.

5.2 CAEP Update Announcement

President Miller and Dr. Hatton will meet with the CAEP council on April 24th to discuss the status of the program and what it means for the EPP moving forward. He will email the CAEP Leadership Team and the TEC with information received in the week to follow.

5.3 Dispositions Review Committee

Dr. Bock brought forward a recommendation from the Elementary Education Faculty regarding the establishment of a Dispositions Review Committee. The Faculty suggests that instead of a formal dispositions committee being formed, rather an ad hoc committee compiled of the instructor, advisor, student, Director of Field Experience and any other person(s) that may need to provide feedback (mentor teacher, principal).

The procedure for disposition infractions as recommended by the Elementary Education Faculty for use as an EPP is as follows:

An infraction form is filled out as the first sign of an issue. The ad hoc committee meets with the student and discusses the expectations and next steps. The form and any additional information is emailed to the Director of Field Experience, the Assistant to the Chair of Education, and the Assistant to the Dean of Education for records purposes. A second infraction form follows the same process. If a third infraction occurs, the student is then put on an Improvement Plan. The Improvement Plan already has a policy outlined within the Student Handbook.

Dr. Hatton emphasized that this provides a standardized and common record for all students within the EPP both in field experience and also in their coursework. This provides documentation and helps concerns not become unmanageable. Dr. Blanca Simmons-Diez suggested that this new policy be added to the Student Handbook so students are aware of the policy when they begin the program. Dr. Hatton agreed, stating that the bulletin should also refer students to the Handbook for policies and procedures. Mr. Carter made a motion for the policy as presented, and Dr. Oppenheimer seconded. The motion carried.

6.0 New Business

7.0 Licensure Report

No Report was given.

8.0 Standing Committees

No Report was given.

9.0 TEC Action Items

10.0 Field Experience Report

No Report was given.

11.0 Announcements

11.1 MAT Taskforce Announcement

The EPP will be involved in a Taskforce being formed through MDE in regards to the alternate route (MAT) program. There is a concern with alternate route programs being used as a way to obtain licensure for Elementary Education, which is not the purpose of the alternate route program. MAT is a pathway to licensure for only secondary education for our university.

11.2 Statewide Assessments Meeting Workshop-May 4

All Teacher Education faculty have been invited to a workshop via Zoom on May 4th to discuss Statewide Assessments (TIAI, Dispositions, and Impact on Student Learning). Scoring, working through assessments, and developing a common understanding of the indicators are all goals for this meeting.

11.3 Readmit Policy

Elementary Education: Admission to the program after a period of 5 years will be allowed if validation processes are met. The student must pass a validation exam for ED 302, ED 361, and ED 362 with 80% or higher in one attempt or retake the class along with the companion residency course. Dr. Bock mentioned that 5 years was chosen because that is the length of validity for license.

Graduate: The School of Education is in the process of making programmatic changes. Masters of Education with concentrations in Educational Leadership, Reading/Literacy, or Gifted Studies are the programs that are currently offered. Due to low enrollment and difficulty in guaranteeing course rotations, the School of Education is in the process of streamlining the program into a Masters of Education in Curriculum & Instruction. This change has already gone before Graduate Council and been approved and is going through the next steps of approval before being submitted to MDE. Students currently in the program will be able to finish in the program in which they enrolled, however any readmits within the program will be readmitted into the new program of study. Classes needed for certifications in Reading/Literacy and Gifted Studies will still be offered, but will not be guaranteed in course rotation.

11.4 Music Education-Instrumental Accreditation Update

Additional information was requested in order for accreditation and it has been deferred until they meet in June. Dr. Mortykova said they were hopeful to be able to begin to offer the program in the fall.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brittany Hunnicutt.