

## **Teacher Preparation Committee Meeting**

October 19, 2009

12:45 p.m. at UTC

**Members Present:** Dennis King, Pam Kimball, Mary Smith, Laura McKnight, John Maddaus, Carla Leathem

### Agenda Items:

- September minutes were reviewed.
- We held a brief discussion of the Assessment agenda item that was discussed at length in September. Dennis noted that he had talked with Sid Mitchell regarding the assessment course and relayed that Sid is hoping to have it be a bit more practical/realistic. He also noted that Sid is in the process of writing a book about assessment. The group wondered if he would be using the same text as has been used in the past. Dennis offered to check with Sid about this item. We felt that the committee had done what it set out to do with this agenda item and would look forward to updates from Sid if he is willing.
- Pam shared that the first meeting of the year for the SAD#22 PDS Pilot had been held. Carla noted that there is an excitement that the 1<sup>st</sup> cohort is in the school and is working toward building relationships. She noted that the principals met with the ERL 319 students before starting in the schools shared their expectations. The UMaine students were surprised at the early start in the morning and at the amount of work for daily teaching preparation.
- We talked about the EERA (Eastern Educational Research Association) proposal that Dennis, Mary S. and Pam wrote last year and decided it would be a good idea to do a follow-up to that for this coming year. Dennis mentioned that we should try to come up with questions to continue to evaluate from a PDS point-of-view the three areas that were discussed in the first paper proposal – Early Literacy, RtI, and PLCs. Pam mentioned that some questions were suggested at the first PDS meeting when Dennis also mentioned this project to them. Dennis, Pam, Mary S. and Mary G. offered to meet on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to work on ideas for the paper.
- It was also mentioned that we should be considering sending people to EERA or perhaps to the PDS National Conference to help everyone become more aware of what others are doing, to look for districts who are just starting up as we are, and to identify the steps they took and how it is proceeding. It would also allow us to hear and see what it looks like in action.
- Dennis asked where NCATE standards are regarding standards-based vs. standards-referenced. John wasn't sure, but felt the 6 standards would be there in some form.
- John noted that Sonia Nieto would be on campus this spring to talk about language, culture and teaching. She will actually be here January 15<sup>th</sup> to keynote at a faculty meeting and to participate in a panel discussion highlighting ways the language and culture issues relate to Maine schools.
- It was mentioned that it would be nice to be able to open both the January sessions and the April session of Sonia's presentations to teachers in the PREP districts should they choose to participate. Pam will ask Maureen Montgomery if John could be on the Curriculum Coordinator's agenda for the November meeting to let them know about these opportunities.
- It was decided that this committee would spend a good deal of time this year revamping the Level I Field Experience for fall 2010 implementation. The question about the expanded use of portfolios came up. Were they used beyond candidacy? (Dennis expands on them in EDB 204.) But what about later? They

are not presently used in EDG 400 The Field Experience Seminar or in STT 498 The Student Teaching Seminar mainly because adjunct faculty teach these courses and they do not all have access to Macs nor do they have access to Noteshare which is what the teacher candidacy e-folios are done in. Dennis also asked the question about where principals were in regards to e-folios. Are principals open to reviewing e-folios at interviews and what specifically they were looking for when they did review them? Carla noted that it is easier if:

- ☞ Items are bulleted
  - ☞ Any document being shared should not be lengthy
  - ☞ In-depth information should be in follow-up pages
  - ☞ Too many applicants to do an extensive review of an e-folio or a big portfolio
  - ☞ Portfolio should show evidence of growth
  - ☞ Should be organized and easy to navigate
- The committee thought it would be nice to have TEF represented at the table of this committee to share where faculty stands on some of these issues. Would like to have the TEF chair attend, if possible. Pam will share the minutes with Ed and see what he can do.
  - The committee wonders what has been shared with the new districts regarding PREP and its sub-committees. Are teachers aware of offerings per RSU? Pam will ask Owen to respond to these two questions.
  - Goals for this year were established:
    - Follow-up on assessment initiative.
    - PDS progress updates
    - Ensure/develop an evaluation process of new initiatives:
      - ☞ PDS, RtI, PLC, Literacy
      - ☞ Pam will pull John M.'s evaluation questions from the original PDS proposal for the committee to review and suggest relevant/necessary questions for the PDS to consider.
  - Dennis and John will co-facilitate the November meeting as Pam will not be there.
  - Next meeting is **Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** at 12:45 at UTC. Please let me know by **Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** if you plan to have lunch at UTC that day.