Meeting Minutes

Teacher Education Program
TEAC – Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Tuesday, March 31, 2020
Virtual meeting
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Attendees: Marianne McTavish (Chair/TEO), John Yamamoto (TEO), Shawna Faber (ECPS), Scott Goble (EDCP), Kedrick James (LLED), Jan Hare (NITEP), Judith Walker (EDST), Anne Phelan (Centre for Study of Teacher Education)

Guest: Sam Rocha (EDST)

1. Approval of Agenda

The “Academic misconduct” and “Professional learning in the context of orientation” agenda items were added.

2. Approval of previous minutes - February 25, 2020

The minutes were approved as circulated.

3. BEd Program during COVID-19

Marianne gave the committee updates on the BEd program during COVID-19. In this unprecedented time, Marianne is in constant communication with all educational partners including the Dean, the Associate Deans Academic, the Ministry of Education, the Teacher Certification Branch, the BC Teachers’ Federation, the BC Teachers’ Council, the Association of BC Deans in Education, school districts, and schools.

Coursework

The Secondary cohort has completed their coursework for Winter Term 2. The Elementary & Middle Years teacher candidates were able to switch to online courses before the spring break, which allowed them to complete their Term 2 courses as well. All departments’ efforts to provide flexibility for students to complete coursework were greatly appreciated.

Moving forward, Summer Term 1 courses for BEd Secondary will be delivered online starting on May 19, 2020. ETS will provide assistance for instructors to move their courses online.
There is discussion to keep BEd summer courses as scheduled so that the teacher candidates will be able to meet synchronously if the instructor chooses. The instructors are asked to be mindful to hold the synchronous sessions within the scheduled course time.

There is a suggestion to host seminars for teacher candidates around tips and strategies for learning in the online spaces. There is also a suggestion to build a repository for instructors to share resources for teaching online. **Action item:** TEO will check with the ETS for hosting webinars.

**Practicum**

There will be a week delay in starting the practicum during this extremely fluid time. This may change again given the uncertain circumstances.

Secondary teacher candidates have completed 6 weeks of the extended practicum but may need 2-4 more weeks in order to meet the Teacher Certification Branch requirement.

The International Community Field Experience has been cancelled. The local Community Field Experience will also be cancelled but this one credit can give space and flexibility in terms of rescheduling the extended practicum and/or providing an alternate experience for teacher candidates.

The messaging to teacher candidates who are looking for guidance/insights during the COVID-19 pandemic will be taken up at the next TEAC meeting.

**4. Professional learning in the context of orientation**

In light of the point raised from the task force on Race, Indigeneity, and Social Justice meeting, we will need to be mindful of how learning will occur for our students in online spaces. The BEd orientation will be revisited at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14, 2020, Location TBA, 1:30 -3:00 p.m.