Meeting Minutes

Teacher Education Program
TEAC – Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Virtual meeting
10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

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

Regrets: Judith Walker (EDST)

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. Approval of previous minutes - April 14, 2020

The minutes were approved as circulated.

3. Updates

• Coursework – Online SS1/SS2, W1

Secondary teacher candidates began their Summer Term 1 coursework online May 19th. Feedback at this point is largely positive and teacher candidates seem to be enthusiastic. There have been no major issues so far with regard to synchronous session attendance. Instructors are able to use various components on Canvas, such as discussion threads, Kaltura videos, etc. Coordination is needed to keep communication open for all parties including instructors, TAs, ETS, and teacher candidates. Summer Term 2 is expected to be smoother as teacher candidates will have had time to adapt to the online learning context.

A Learning Experience Survey is built into each basic course shell on Canvas which enables instructors to get feedback about the course. This can be modified/individualized by instructors, and can be turned “on” in Canvas. ETS can provide support to navigate this survey.
How to best use the synchronous time was discussed. A better class flow is to divide students into small groups in breakout rooms to work on group projects.

The class recording function has been made available for instructors. As there are many group times and presentations in the synchronous sessions, the recording of the session is useful for course summaries at the end of classes.

Students have shown a great deal of flexibility to adapt their family and/or work lives to attend online learning. Some teacher candidates are allowed to use their phones to attend the classes, as long as they can participate as required in group work.

Teacher candidates are responsible for filling out the absence form if they are going to miss any classes and to inform the instructor.

- Practicum

Secondary teacher candidates have successfully completed their practicum. Some inspiring community field experience (CFE) projects have been profiled on the TEO website and shared on social media. There are approximately 25 secondary teacher candidates who will be doing a fall 6-week supplemental practicum, but they were nonetheless able to successfully complete their CFE requirements.

Elementary and Middle Years teacher candidates will be able to complete their practicum online. The ministry has announced to restart schools on June 1st as part of the BC phase 2 restart plan. Every district and school will be setting different guidelines. Due to the social distancing and number of adults limitation in schools, faculty advisors will not be entering schools to conduct observations. Teacher candidates will be completing the practicum in consultation with their school advisors and faculty advisors.

Incoming teacher candidates have been informed to make arrangements for online course work in September and to be available for a face-to-face short practicum and weekly school visits in October. WKTEP teacher candidates also have been informed to plan to have their housing in place in September.

New guidelines on assessing practicum in the online context have been developed. Secondary teacher candidates were assessed by both the traditional and the new guidelines due to the hybrid nature of their practicum experience. Elementary and Middle Years teacher candidates are being evaluated by the new guidelines. The descriptors on the professional standards were mapped on to the performance checklist categories. CCASA members requested that they be sent copies of the new guidelines, and these will be supplied along with the meeting minutes.
4. **Attendance policy for online contexts**

   See above.

5. **Fall Orientation**

   For the fall orientation, we continue to work on implementing the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as the focus on themes related to Race, Indigeneity and Social Justice. Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek, vice president of Equity, People and Culture at York University is invited as the keynote speaker this year. There was a suggestion to have the instructors access some of Dr. Cote-Meek’s readings prior to orientation.

6. **Staffing for Cariboo**

   Dr. Jan Hare updated the committee that she will be reaching out to some departments for staffing the courses at the Cariboo field centre.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 30, 2 – 3:30 pm