



To: Members of the LUTE STEM Community

From: Niki Fayne

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Professionalism

The theme of this week's newsletter is the importance of professional dispositions in our residency program. Professional dispositions are the values and attitudes that shape how we approach our work as educators. National, state, and local standards all underscore that teacher effectiveness is based on more than content mastery and command of evidence-based instructional strategies. In the LUTE framework, we celebrate our diverse community of learners. However, despite the variability that is the natural by-product of diversity, there are common expectations across teacher preparation programs regarding professional dispositions. As a School of Education, we identified 16 professional indicators that are assessed formally prior to entering student teaching. The first three are "basics" that apply in any work setting (timeliness, attendance, appearance/dress); the next three are essential characteristics for teachers in any school setting (self-efficacy, maintaining confidentiality, initiative). The remaining ten are mission-critical for the communities and schools we serve: Sensitivity to Cultural Diversity, Sensitivity to Individual Differences, Cooperation, Fairness, Rapport, Caring, Open-Mindedness, Honesty, Responsiveness to Feedback, Reflectivity.

I would ask that each resident review the self-assessment protocol that is attached to this email. I would also recommend that you share results with either your host teacher or Lehman faculty liaison and find out if your assessment of these 16 indicators matches theirs. At the end of fall semester, your host teacher will be asked to respond to a parallel protocol. This is time to establish the type of honest communication that can help you to grow professionally.

NYSED Certification

We have received some questions regarding certification. Vanessa Jones, our Teacher Certification Specialist, is your best source of information. If you have not met with her already, you can request an appointment by emailing teacher.certification@lehman.cuny.edu. She requests that early childhood, early childhood special education, and childhood candidates set up appointments first. Generally, individuals who intend to earn these certificates need a careful review of liberal arts requirements. Secondary candidates can hold off until the beginning of spring semester.

All NYSED workshops required for certification will be offered in a fully online format this year; Ms. Jones can answer questions about which workshop(s) you need for your certificate during your appointment.

Galaxy Update

Good news is coming about remote learning platform access. While our partner schools have done everything right, there appears to have been a “glitch” in the system that made it hard if not impossible for our residents to get NYCDOE email addresses. There is going to be a new drop-down menu option specifically for “student teachers.” Our residents will be coded as student teachers. As soon as the option is visible in the system, we will notify building leaders. Unfortunately, resident data will need to be re-entered into Galaxy.

Focus Groups

Our program evaluators will be holding focus group interviews during late October so that LUTE-STEM staff can better understand your experiences with and opinions about joining the LUTE-STEM project and about the summer PD sessions. There will be one group composed of residents and a second of host teachers. Ideally, we would like each group to be composed of 6-8 individuals. A group meeting, held on Zoom after 4:00 p.m. on a week day to be determined, will take approximately 45 minutes. More information about possible dates and times will be forthcoming. If you are interested in making sure that you get a spot in one of these groups, please notify Alderson Magloire at LUTE.STEM@lehman.cuny.edu.