



Dear Principal and Teacher Mentor,

The FasTrack Secondary Teacher Education Initiative is designed with Teacher Mentor for each teacher candidate student.

One of the great aspects of the FasTrack Initiative is the use of a Teacher Mentor support system for our student teachers. Each student is required to choose a secondary Teacher Mentor with three years of experience currently teaching in their content area in a public school to support them throughout their FasTrack learning experience. The mentor teacher must be licensed in the area in which the student is seeking licensure. For instance, if student is seeking a K-6 license, the mentor needs to be licensed K-6. If they are seeking a 9-12 Chemistry license, the mentor needs a 9-12 Chemistry license. If they are seeking a K-12 SPED license, the mentor needs that license. The Teacher's license number is also needed.

We are looking for teacher mentor and principal teams to give the student support during the semester. The principal will have no responsibilities other than to sign the application and to participate in one short interview during their Practicum. This, in effect, indicates you recommend your teacher as a good candidate for the Teacher Mentor role. They will be considered part of our team.

The responsibilities as a Teacher Mentor:

- Each semester professors might request:
 - To occasionally proctor a test for the student.
 - Give us feedback if the mentor has any concerns about their student's progress or questions about the program. An email to Fastrack@bemidjistate.edu will always get to the right person for responding to these concerns. 1-800-948-5904
 - Provide or assist in locating observation and practicum venues for the pre-service teacher candidate. This might be in the mentor's classroom or another classroom in your community. The mentor doesn't arrange, they only **suggest**.
 - Act as a coach and mentor as needed, answering questions posed by the student regarding the mentor's experiences with certain key elements of successful pedagogy such as how he or she motivates the students, what he or she would do about differentiating instruction, and what they know about your school's testing results.
 - Openly participate in our Virtual Assembly Discussion Board each semester.
- The estimated commitment per semester, after the first semester, will be about **five hours per semester**. Teacher Mentors will be paid \$100.00 per semester, per student, and can earn graduate credits or CEU's as requested.

Each mentor is required to complete an application with a principal endorsement (see attached).

Sincerely,

Your partners in teaching and learning,

FasTrack Initiative
Bemidji State University
fastrack@bemidjistate.edu