March 17, 2020

Dear Teacher Candidates,

Thank you for your patience during this uncharted time in our history. The Clinical Office and PEDL faculty and staff have met to discuss your student teaching experience.

While each of you are in a unique, individual setting and have different nuances to your experience, we want you to know we are working with PELSB to ensure the best outcome possible.

Since all schools in MN are closed for the next two weeks (minimally), we are recommending our student teachers continue their experience in this new setting if the Cooperating Teacher is willing to continue hosting the Student Teacher. This is a learning curve for all, and you will want to be part of it if possible. Unfortunately, some schools will be unable to continue to support student teachers due to numerous different reasons. We have utmost respect for their decisions. Please express gratefulness toward your Cooperating Teachers and Principals. Please let us know if this becomes your situation so we can obtain official documentation.

We are applying for a student teaching variance from PELSB in effort to explore our student options going forward. It is of utmost importance that you do the following so we may provide all necessary info to PELSB:

Next steps; Please do the following if you are a student teacher:

1. Upload to Taskstream:
   a) All observations conducted (both US and CT)
   b) Triad Documentations
   c) US Summative Evaluation
   d) Letters of Recommendation (both US and CT)
   e) Complete the Exit Survey (already in Taskstream)

2. Complete self-evaluation
3. Complete SEP attainment checklist (to the best of your ability)

For those who are earning an endorsement and have not begun their student teaching, we are working with PELSB, Dean Barta, and BSU records for direction.

Finally, we know this is a very stressful time, and we are all feeling a sense of anxiety. We hope that you are finding support within your family and friends. As Governor Walz said in his press conference Sunday. “When Minnesotan’s pull together we can accomplish great things.” We believe that Bemidji State, and PELSB will do what is appropriate for all of you to ensure your dreams of becoming a teacher come to fruition.

Take Good Care.

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