



BETHEL
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Mission Statement

As part of a Christian learning community at Bethel University, the Department of Education seeks to prepare educators for service in public and private schools. Students successfully completing student teaching will be prepared to begin their careers as teachers. They will be teachers:

1 ...WHO ARE REFLECTIVE PRACTITIONERS PURSUING CONTINUED PERSONAL LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL RENEWAL

As a reflective practitioner, the teacher...

- 1.1 engages in ongoing reassessment of personal role as an educator;
- 1.2 reflects on professional practice and the underlying assumptions;
- 1.3 cultivates a broad perspective about education in its societal context;
- 1.4 models the value of continued personal learning and professional development.

2 ...WHO ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE AND COMPETENT IN SUBJECT MATTER.

As a knowledgeable and competent professional, the teacher...

- 2.1 demonstrates appropriate content skills and knowledge;
- 2.2 thinks critically and reflectively about current educational research, theory, and practice specific to subject matter.

3 ...WHO UNDERSTAND HOW STUDENTS LEARN AND DEVELOP, AND WHO FACILITATE LEARNING THROUGH EFFECTIVE TEACHING

As a facilitator of learning, the knowledgeable and effective teacher...

- 3.1 creates and maintains a positive learning environment within the classroom;
- 3.2 adapts, designs, and evaluates developmentally appropriate curriculum which is sensitive to multicultural, gender, and ability issues;
- 3.3 designs appropriate learning outcomes;
- 3.4 makes teaching decisions based on assessment of student learning;
- 3.5 uses a variety of teaching strategies to accommodate diverse backgrounds, interests, and needs;
- 3.6 actively involves students in their learning;
- 3.7 uses resourcefulness and creativity in meeting the needs of students.

4 ...WHO ESTABLISH COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH STUDENTS, STAFF, PARENTS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF VARYING PERSONALITY, RACIAL/ETHNIC BACKGROUND, FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, AND ABILITY

As a collaborator, the teacher...

- 4.1 relates positively with students having varying needs, abilities, and learning styles including children with special needs;
- 4.2 contributes in a positive manner to the school climate;
- 4.3 serves as a resource and referral agent to students, parents, other professionals, and outside agencies;
- 4.4 deals sensitively with families from diverse backgrounds who have varying belief systems;
- 4.5 works positively with school personnel.

5 ...WHOSE CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW PROVIDES A STRONG MORAL FRAMEWORK CHARACTERIZED BY INTEGRITY AND COMPASSION

From this strong moral framework, the teacher...

- 5.1 provides dedicated service to others;
- 5.2 demonstrates ethical decision making;
- 5.3 treats others with fairness and respect.