

## Alignment Practicum

Dear Cooperating Teacher,

Thank you for giving one of our junior education students the opportunity to work in your classroom this semester. To fulfill state requirements for experience in the classroom prior to student teaching, our junior students need to prepare and teach a unit of study in a public or private school classroom. This experience is an important step for our students as they pursue a teaching career. The feedback and helpful hints you give them will be extremely useful in their professional growth.

### **PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS:**

Practicum students will teach a 10-day (8-10 unit) lesson including a practice performance assessment in which they will be observed by university supervisors. Dates for this teaching are the two weeks immediately following spring break. Our first concern during this practicum experience is for your classroom. We want to be sure your students are benefiting from the time spent under the instruction of our candidates.

### **Prior to teaching their unit, the Teacher Candidate should...**

- 1) Have small teaching opportunities in advance of teaching their unit
- 2) Complete approximately 30 hours of observation in the classroom
- 3) Work with students during these observation hours whenever possible

### **Cooperating Teacher and Teacher Candidate should meet together in January to:**

- 1) Establish the content of the unit which the candidate will teach
- 2) Determine the curriculum and/or materials needed to complete the unit
- 3) Finalize teaching times and dates

### **Formal Observation Requirements of Cooperating Teacher:**

Cooperating teachers are asked to make informal observations and provide feedback to the students for any teaching experience or interactions with students. Early in the semester of the practicum the Cooperating Teacher will receive specific instructions about accessing Corban's web-based evaluation system (**TK20**) to complete a few forms. These forms will include

- 1) One formal observation report for a lesson during the student's unit of study.
- 2) One evaluation of the student's professional competence overall during the experience.
- 3) One evaluation of the student's professional dispositions.

If you have further questions or concerns please contact me. Thank you again for allowing one of our students to gain valuable experience in your classroom.



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