

EPAC
September 18, 2012
Minutes
The old DHE building
61 Woodland Street, Hartford
1st Floor Board Room

Time
9:00

Session

Welcome and Re-introductions

The Charge

Determine a way to assess the quality of Teacher Preparation Programs

Performance of graduates in the classroom as determined by teacher evaluation and student performance

- Teacher retention, turnover, dismissal rates in schools
- Preparation for work in high needs districts
- Structured feedback from school districts

EPAC is an Advisory Body

- Charged with advising the State Board of Education on ways to significantly increase the quality of teacher preparation in CT
- By examining the quality of the experiences and
- By establishing accountability for outcomes of preparation programs

Scope of Work & Plan of Action

EPAC will address the 4 target areas of work

- 1) Professional competencies and key experiences
- 2) Robust accountability system
- 3) Structural issues
- 4) Policy recommendations

Focus for Today: 4 semesters of clinical experience, field experience or student teaching

Acknowledgment of the last SBE meeting. Raising the bar on teacher preparation.

Michael Meotti remarks

Allan Taylor remarks

Introductions of those present

9:20

Leading Practice within Our Teacher Preparation Programs

Clinical Experience at respective organization programs-- Highlights:

Wesleyan: No teacher prep-program but a variety of different types of programs that involves the students into K-12 schools. (Wes Reads and Wes Math)

- Partnerships focus on CMT support
- New early childhood reading program: working with pre-K students over the summer

Connecticut College: Intentional Diversity and Grounding in Practice

- Focus on the structural foundational issues beyond what's happening in the classroom

Central CT State University and Western CT State University: Provided information on various elements of their teacher preparation program

Norwalk Community College: Community Colleges are going through NAYEC process.

- 300 Hours of field experience: 2 age groups and 2 settings
- Teachers Pathways Program: 2-4 year path

UCONN: Partnerships with 7 districts

- Full-time clinical faculty who are assigned to those districts with a shared responsibility
- Time on Task: 6 semesters
- 2 additional semesters after the Student Teaching Semester
- Curriculum specific to placement
- Variety of placements: SPED placement for a full semester
- Should we expect that the language should be different for post-doc programs?

St. Joseph's University: provided handout

- Pre-student teaching field work
- One course that's imbedded in the school district
- 250 Field experience
- Students must deliver a unit plan
- Supervising meetings are weekly

Teach for America: Alternative Routes, 100 teachers/year

- Summer Institute
- Preparing teaching for the neediest communities w/ diversity curriculum
- Model to bridge in-service and pre-service
- Should we expect that the language should be inclusive of alternative routes?

Education Connection: Bridges Program

Hamden: Quinnipiac Program where superintendent meets with responsible parties of the field study and internship to better partnership

Brookfield: Relationship with WCSU

Summary of What was Shared:

- Issues of time
- Developmental trajectory-- content, tasks
- Content and variety-- values of the program
- Alignment of the experience to the standards of the CCSS
- Supervisory relationship-- quality
- Issues of boundaries-- creating quality teachers and not just copy makers

10:00

Clarifying & Enhancing Policy Principles for the Clinical Experience

EPAC ought to be interested in both inputs and outputs and the dialogue should involve both.

Should K-12 partnership with higher education required so that programs are effective?

Roles and responsibilities of the staff the K-12 community brings to preparation programs

How do the different practicum requirements fit?

11:35

Working Group: Establishing the Team and the Task

Collection of the notes

11:50

Assessing the Day: How well did it work?

Pluses

- Facilities
- Time keeper
- Small Groups
- Composition of tables

Minuses

- Documents in advance and online
- Not enough time to discuss everything

11:55

Closing