

Recommendations from Dispositions Committee – November 2010.

Members: Dr. Christine Purkiss (chair); Dr. Donna Gee; Dr. Deborah Banker

The Dispositions Committee has met three times and would like to make the following recommendations concerning dispositions for the Teacher Education Department:

1. That dispositions be completed by faculty on students at regular times during the school year and that this data is analyzed and used to assist students and faculty in the teaching as a career decision making process.
2. That the dispositions that are currently being used for entry to the EPP are the set of dispositions that the Teacher Education Department will use.
3. That an electronic method of completing dispositions by faculty be established.
4. That a scale of 1-3 be used to assess students on their dispositions, with 1 being a concern, 2 being neutral, and 3 being satisfactory.
5. That dispositions are completed in certain key courses that all students within either the SPED program or EC-6 program have to take such as SPED 2361, Reading 3332, SPED 4362/3, and Reading 4602.
6. That in ED2202, students are introduced to and discuss at length, teaching dispositions.
7. That ED 2202 be a prerequisite requirement for all courses in the Teacher Education Department.
8. That the collection, development, and dissemination of disposition data be housed in the EPI Center.
9. That the procedure below be reviewed by the Teacher Education Department faculty, Department Head and Dean, as well as by appropriate legal counsel and voted on by the department as soon as possible.
10. That the Teacher Education Department carries out a pilot study of the procedure below in the Spring of 2011

Below is an outline of a prospective procedure for the collection of disposition data, the formation of a Dispositions Committee and consequences for students if they do not meet the dispositions expectations.

1. Dispositions are explained in ED2202 and candidates are asked to acknowledge understanding of the dispositions by signing the disposition statement.
2. In key identified classes, the faculty member completes dispositions on all candidates in that class during the 12th week of the semester. (NB: it would be intended that this process be electronic using TaskStream as soon as possible. A copy of a possible dispositions electronic form is attached. Disposition descriptions have been shortened to aid in time of completion.)
3. At any time any faculty member may complete a disposition on a candidate that they have a serious concern about. This concern goes straight to the Dispositions Committee Chair.

4. A Dispositions Committee made up of three faculty members, an EPI Center advisor, and the head of the teacher education department will be created. This will be a standing department committee and length of service to this committee will need to be determined.
5. Candidate data is collected and analyzed in the EPI Center. The chair of the Dispositions Committee receives the data.
 - a. The data is reviewed for candidates who have more than 3 concerns or who appear to have a pattern of neutral scores.
 - b. Candidates who appear to have a neutral pattern of dispositions will meet with the Chair of the committee for counseling and to discuss a course of action for the student.
 - c. The chair receives any single serious "Concern" dispositions that are completed during the school year. A decision is made to counsel the candidate based on data – if this is the only concern, and depending on the nature of the infraction, the chair may
 - i. Return the concern to the faculty member for action in the class, or
 - ii. Notify the candidate of the concern and offer advice to correct the situation; or
 - iii. Notify the candidate that a serious concern has been raised and that the candidate needs to meet with the committee within the next two week; or
 - iv. The candidate is removed from a situation immediately and meets with the chair of the dispositions committee and the head of the department.
 - d. Any meeting with the chair or committee will end with a written course of action for the candidate.
 - e. A candidate who does not complete the written course of action or receives further "concerns", will be removed from the program.
 - f. Any concerns of a serious nature that are detrimental to the teaching profession, do not meet the Texas Teacher Code of Ethics or involve unethical or improper behavior are reasons for immediate removal from the teacher education program.
 - g. Appeals – appeals for removal from the teacher education program will be made to the Dean of the College of Education within one week of notification of intended removal from the program.

DISPOSITIONS FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

In all classes the following dispositions will be addressed:	Concern	Neutral	Satisfactory	N/A
Demonstrates timeliness and meets deadlines				
Consistent attendance				
Demonstrates a Positive/Professional Attitude				
Shows initiative				
Acts in an ethical manner				
Organized				
Demonstrates flexibility				
Values diversity				
Cooperative and respectful				
Responds productively to feedback				
Establishes rapport and collaborates				
Engages in reflection				

During Field Experiences, Observations, or Practicum the following dispositions will also be addressed:				
Professional appearance and dress				
Promotes success for all students				
Establishes positive rapport with EC-12 students				
Demonstrates involvement with all members of the learning community				