

## THE MARGINAL STUDENT TEACHER

The marginal Student Teacher is a student who demonstrates performance deficiencies. This student teacher can be identified early and will likely need continued assistance and may not be ready to manage and facilitate learning in his/her own classroom. The complete supervisory process for monitoring and accommodating marginal student teachers includes the following major components: identification, placement considerations, adjustments in conferences and observations, facilitation of student teacher self-reflection, and anecdotal record-keeping. The information provided below is designed to provide more specific articulation of the expectations for supervision of the ineffective or “marginal” student teacher.

### I. MARGINAL STUDENT TEACHER SUPERVISION PLAN

1. The Coordinator of Student Field Experiences is to be notified immediately when a Student Teacher does not appear to be progressing at a rate to allow for successful completion of the student teaching experience. There should be no “surprises” at the end of the placement final conference.
2. The Student Teacher, Cooperating Teacher and Principal, and Associate Dean will be notified regarding the unsatisfactory quality of the student teaching experience.
3. Whenever feasible (\*\*) a remediation plan will be developed that identifies areas of needed improvement. The Coordinator of Student Field Experiences, the College Supervisor, and Cooperating Teacher will collaborate to recommend strategies for implementation.
4. Information relevant for remediation of the Student Teacher will be sought from University records and professional personnel, including but not limited the advisor, Program Coordinator, or former instructors.
5. The Coordinator of Student Field Experiences, after consultation with the College Supervisor and the Cooperating Teacher, may design a remediation plan in conjunction with the Student Teacher. The Student Teacher, Cooperating Teacher, Cooperating Principal, and Associate Dean will each receive copies of the remediation plan that will include:
  - a. identification of areas of needed improvement
  - b. specific strategies to implement
  - c. specific outcomes desired and person(s) responsible for validation of those outcomes
  - d. a timeline
  - e. consequences of not completing the plan adequately
  - f. date and signature of the Student Teacher, College Supervisor, and Coordinator
  - g. a copy of the plan to the Cooperating Teacher
6. After the Student Teacher and Cooperating Teacher have received formal notification regarding problems to be addressed from the College Supervisor and/or the Coordinator of Student Field Experiences, arrangements may be made for the Coordinator to formally observe the Student Teacher.
7. Weekly written and oral feedback will be provided to the Student Teacher regarding progress toward reaching the goals identified in the remediation plan.
8. The Coordinator of Student Field Experiences may arrange for additional observations/evaluations by qualified individuals such as the Cooperating Principal or University Faculty.

## MARGINAL STUDENT TEACHER SUPERVISION PLAN continued.

9. The College Supervisor and Cooperating Teacher will document ALL interactions in the remediation process. Documentation includes a description of major points of discussion, conclusions reached, and dates.
10. Possible outcomes for the Student Teacher from the steps outlined above include:
  - a. Adequately meet the remediation requirements and complete the student teaching experience.
  - b. Makes significant progress toward meeting the requirements of the remediation plan but not all aspects of the plan. The Coordinator may choose to either extend this experience or assign the student to an additional student teaching experience in the same or a subsequent semester. Experiences that extend beyond the end of the semester may be assigned an incomplete grade until the completion of the experience. Additional coursework or tutoring may be required.
  - c. May decide to withdraw from student teaching.
  - d. Rate of progress may remain unsatisfactory. Under these circumstances the student teaching assignment will be terminated. The decision to terminate will be made based on input and discussions from the Cooperating Teacher, College Supervisor, Coordinator of Student Field Experiences, and Cooperating Principal.

When a termination decision is made, the Coordinator of Student Field Experiences and College Supervisor will make arrangements for a conference with the Student Teacher. This conference will be arranged with consideration for the needs and concerns of the Student Teacher. The conference may include personal and career counseling options.
  - e. Decides to withdraw or be terminated from this student teaching experience in which case, re-registration for a new student teaching assignment during a subsequent semester **may** be an option. Pursuant to any student teaching reassignment, a Student Teacher must wait a minimum of one semester and verify having had practical experiences in a learning environment that would increase their potential for success.
11. In remediation situations Student Teacher and the University interested will be accommodated by:
  - involving the student in the decision process
  - keeping extensive written documentation
  - showing evidence of proceeding in a timely manner
  - retaining written records

***(\*\*) It should be noted that in some cases, due to the circumstances of the situation, a student teacher may immediately be removed from the assignment.***

***Appeals should be directed to the Associate Dean for Teacher Education.***

## PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND DISPOSITIONS

The student teacher's personal qualities should comprise character, skills, and dispositions appropriate for the teaching profession. Moreover, the student teacher is expected to model exemplary ethical and legal behaviors at all times (both on and off the school grounds). Any breach of these standards may result in withdrawal from the student teaching placement and/or the Teacher Education Program.