

Master in Teaching Program Education Field Experience and Community Relations The Evergreen State College 2700 Evergreen Parkway N.W. SEM2 E3131 Olympia, Washington 98505 (360) 867-6573

November 2009

Dear Principal & Cooperating Teacher-Mentor,

Thank you for your willingness to share your time, talents, and expertise with our teacher candidates. Field experience is an essential component of our teacher education program as it provides the meaningful context for our students to apply and understand recently acquired teaching methods and strategies.

Our students are in their first year of a two-year Master in Teaching program. They are currently observing in an elementary school, a middle school, and a high school. Their classroom observations have been guided by topics being studied in the program.

Beginning January 7th for 3 weeks, our teacher candidates will focus on observing. They will also schedule conversations with other school personnel and observe in other special purpose classrooms, e.g. library, media center, special needs classroom, ESL pullout.

On January 28th, our teacher candidates are prepared to work with students 1:1 or in small groups as per your direction and curricular needs. The more opportunities for direct teaching or tutoring; the greater value of the field experience. They will also be required to complete assignments during this time that will connect the program topics and field experience.

Each preservice teacher has been assigned to work with a cooperating teacher-mentor and will be at your site on the following Thursdays:

January 7	February 4	March 4	April 1	May 8
14	11	11	. 8	13
21	18	18	15	20
28	25		22	27
			29	June 3

We understand that these dates may conflict with your scheduled breaks, in which case our students would come the following date listed.

Finally, in addition to the Thursdays in your building, we would like our students to work with their cooperating teacher-mentor to teach at least one, if not two 3 day consecutive lessons in April or May to the whole class. The cooperating teacher-mentor will select the lessons and dates. The dates selected may vary from the schedule listed above.

Once again, thank you for graciously supporting the field experiences and greatly enhancing the development of our preservice teachers. If you have any questions please contact Loren Petty at (360) 867-6573.

Kindest Regards,

Sonja Wiedenhaupt, PhD Faculty Michael Vavrus, PhD Faculty Jana Dean, MEd Faculty *Loren E. Petty* Loren E. Petty Education Field Experience