

“Coffee, Cake, and CAEP”

Educator Program Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda Minutes

Sept 18, 2024

Welcome and Updates- Dr. Annette Hux, Interim Dean

Dr. Hux called the meeting to order at 8:45am, welcoming all members present. She began with the importance of EPAC in meeting the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) requirements that involves collaborating with both internal and external partners. The following updates were provided:

- In Fall 2023, we had 5 founding Residents in two school districts. Currently, we have 20 Residents in classrooms.
- 3 Aspiring Teachers who have their own classrooms in schools
- A-State Educates Arkansas Map reveals that we have graduates from our Educator Preparation Program in every county in the state.
- Thank you to all of our participating Schools/Partnerships

II. The EPP/ CAEP Story/CAEP Accreditation- Dr. Joanna Grymes

After making introductions of A-State CAEP Leadership team, Dr. Grymes recounted the procedures the EPP uses to regularly and systematically assess its performance against its goals and standards, and uses these results to improve its programs.

- The Self Study Report was submitted in early January.
- We then received CAEP formative feedback and responded to that.
- We are now preparing for the virtual site visit.
- This includes most of the colleges at A-State and any stakeholders involved in feedback, program evaluation, and continuous improvement.
- 2 Levels of Standards- Initial and Advanced Standards were reviewed
 - Content about what our candidates are teaching
 - Clinical Partnerships and Practice to ensure candidate preparation
 - Candidate Quality and Selection
 - Satisfaction of Employers and Completers to demonstrate effectiveness
 - Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement
- Discussed EPP Improvements and Changes, highlighting data measures used as evidence
- Discussed external stakeholder involvement
- Viewed Program Improvement Process Chart and EPP Program Improvement Chart

III. Partnerships, Clinical Educators and Clinical Experiences- Dr. Audrey Bowser

Dr. Bowser briefly summarized the value of mutually beneficial partnerships, stating that ongoing communication is one of the cornerstones of maintaining a successful partnership. She then shared examples of how the EPP presents evidence to P-12 partners that is reviewed periodically and involves activities such as:

- Collaborative development, review, or revision of instruments and evaluations.
- Collaboration and development of the clinical experiences
- Ongoing decision-making about partnership structure and operations
- Creation of opportunities for candidates to work with P-12 students who have varied needs.
- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and placement agreements for clinical experiences
- Working together to place candidates with highly qualified mentor teachers at the initial level and site mentors for advanced candidates

Stakeholder Involvement Discussions and Feedback

- How are stakeholders involved in the continuous improvement processes of the EPP?
 - Engaging in continuous collaborative communication with each other
 - Professional development training for clinical teachers on co-teaching
 - High quality instructional materials- State and National accreditation
- How do our stakeholders provide feedback to the EPP about our programs?
 - Advisory Council meetings to give input and feedback on curriculum changes
 - Reviewing the protocols established by LEARNS Act to design Residency Program by Fall 2026
 - Advance programs use focus groups to implement changes, such as EDLDA assessment

IV. Announcements/ Closing Remarks- Dr. Audrey Bowser and Dr. Annette Hux

- Oct 2-4: Virtual Site Visit
- Oct 29th-30th: Partnering to Make Meaningful Changes for our Schools, invitation to attend professional development workshop on HQIM
- Jill Clogston- Literacy Tutoring Grant, Ready 2 Teach Summit, APSI 2025 Flyers
- Recommendations:
 - It was suggested that a list of acronyms would be shared with all of our partners
 - Sharon Colburn would like A-State to start a LEADS Program

Minutes Submitted by: Faye Scudder