Department of Elementary Education

Ball State University
Teachers College
Ball State University

Located 60 miles northeast of Indianapolis in Muncie, Indiana
- 20,000 students
- 6,500 education majors
- 1700 elementary education teacher candidates
Conceptual Framework for Professional Education

The Professional Educator

Expert
- Understands Content
- Understands Development

Engagement
- Communicates
- Manages & Motivates
- Plans & Integrates
- Evaluates
- Designs Instructional Strategies

Context
- Reflects on Practice
- Participates in the Professional Community
The Department of Elementary Education prepares candidates in:

- Elementary Education (K-6)
- Early Childhood Education (PK-3rd)
- Dual Major: Elementary Ed/Special Ed-Mild Disabilities (Inclusive settings K-6)
Undergraduate program features:

- Sequenced experiences
- Required service learning course
- Content concentration for elem. majors
- 6 separate field placements
- 16-week student teaching experience
- Senior capstone course after ST
- Access to other opportunities
Field Placements

- Occur each year of the program
- Community agencies
- Schools
- Community at large
- Outside Indiana
- Urban, rural, and suburban settings
Content Concentration Area

- Language Arts
- Science
- Social Studies
- K/Primary
- ESL/Foreign Language*
- Reading*
- Technology*

- Math*
- Home/School/Community Relations
- Wellness
- Psychology and Counseling
Field Experiences
Throughout the United States

- Student Teaching and Senior Seminar
- Fall or Spring
- Junior Practicum
- Summer
International Experiences

- Liverpool, England
- Junior Practicum
- Summer Semester

- Baumholder, Germany
- Student Teaching
- 16-weeks
Field-based work evaluated using INTASC Standards

- Content
- Development
- Differences
- Instructional Strategies
- Motivation & Behavior
- Communication
- Planning
- Assessment
- Reflective Practitioner
- Professional Relations
Student Teachers

- Follow the co-teaching model
- Evaluated using INTASC Principles
- Understand inquiry-based instruction through completion of the LAMP
Senior Capstone Course

- EDEL 450
- Taken after student teaching
- Inquiry-based
- Professional Growth Plan
- Positive reviews from students, faculty, and hiring officials.
Supervised Practicum Classes

- EDEL 100: 50-hours of community service
- EDEL 200: Burris Practicum*
- EDEL 300: School Observations
- EDEL 350: Burris Practicum*
- Student Teaching
- Other practicum in math, science, PE, special education, and other University Core courses
AACTE RECOGNITION

- For Distinguished International Programming
- For Distinguished Diversity Program-Urban Semester
Urban Semester Program

- Fall Semester
- 30 students
- Classes and practicum offered on-site
  - High needs district
  - MSD Wayne Township
Strong and on-going connections:

- BSU PDS Network
- Office of Teacher Education Services
- Office of Leadership and Service Learning
- Burris Laboratory School
- Community Alliance to Promote Education
Faculty members receive load credit for PDS work. Three-fourths of the faculty are involved in collaborative work beyond any classes taught on campus.

This office places approximately 200 student teachers per semester. Student teachers are first placed in PDS sites, then partnership schools, then other area schools within a 75 mile radius.

Preservice and inservice teachers serve in a variety of professional positions within the department.

This is a grant funded project developed by BSU and local school districts to serve the lowest academic achievers in ten schools. This is the 6th year of a 6-year cycle.
Ball State University
Professional Development Schools
Network

- Development began in 1995 in coordination with elementary program revision
- Standards-based
- Initial funding: Lilly Endowment, Educate Indiana Fund, Title II
- Interdisciplinary teams
Administrative support is essential for PDS success

Roy Weaver, Dean
Teachers College
Ball State University
Ball State University
Professional Development Schools
Network

- 3 child development centers
- 10 elementary schools
- 1 parochial school
- 2 middle schools
- 5 high schools
- Indianapolis Children’s Museum
- Minnetrista (cultural center)
Member of the Holmes Partnership Group
The 2007 Nancy Zimpher Award for Best Partnership with Rhoades Elementary
Ball State University President and Dean of Teachers College present a formal document to each PDS.
NCATE Standards for Professional Development Schools

- Standard I: Learning Community
- Standard II: Accountability and Quality Assurance
- Standard III: Collaboration
- Standard IV: Diversity and Equity
- Standard V: Structures, Resources, and Roles
Teacher Preparation Goal: Student teachers will have experience in curriculum integration to improve student achievement; creating a safe, nurturing classroom environment; engaging parents and community members in student learning; and participating in a variety of professional activities.
SAMPLE ANNUAL GOALS

- **Staff Development Goal:** *A cadre of teachers will take the EDEL 698 course for mentor teachers and will then share information with the remainder of the faculty.*

- **Research Goal:** *Does Focus software impact struggling students' reading levels.*

- **Student Learning Goal:** *Student achievement scores will improve in math, writing, and reading comprehension.*
Cohorts of Student Teachers in Professional Development Schools
Student Teaching in Professional Development Schools

- Intentional, focused, and disciplined approach
- Partnership activities interwoven throughout professional development plan
- Job-embedded training
- Continuous mentoring
Ball State University
Professional Development Schools
Network

Master of Arts in Education Teaching Elementary Education
developed in cooperation with PDS site
Washington-Carver Elementary
Final Washington-Carver MAETEE group
Ball State University
Professional Development Schools
Network

Transition to Teaching developed in cooperation with PDS site Towne Meadow Elementary

- State mandated program
- Cohort groups
- 24-credit hours (including 6 in reading instruction)
- Program being revised for Fall 2007
Ball State University
Professional Development Schools
Network

Ready Schools Project developed in cooperation with PDS sites Huffer Memorial Children’s Center and Washington-Carver Elementary
University Office of Educational Field Experiences (OTES)

- Contact point for experiential learning
- Places approximately 700 student teachers
- Arranges observation and participation requests
- Arranges practicum requests
- Developed student teaching evaluation
- Coordinates partner school efforts
- Teacher licensing
University Office of Educational Field Experiences (OTES)

- Learning Assessment Model Project (LAMP)
- Includes 5 components
  - The Instructional Unit
  - Assessments
  - Unit Project
  - Project Rubric
  - Evaluation of Student Learning

http://www.bsu.edu/tcapps/uas/lamp
University Office of Educational Field Experiences (OTES)

Evaluation of Student Teachers Guidebook
University Office of Educational Field Experiences (OTES)

Student Teacher’s Portfolio Handbook
Office of Leadership and Service Learning

- Connections with over 200 community and social service agencies
- 1,047 volunteers
- 20,000 volunteer tutoring hours

- Alternate Spring Break
- One Day Projects
- Other on-going activities
Burris Laboratory School

- A Unit within TC
- Main placement for Sophomore and Junior practica
- Placement for special situations
- Included in work of the Department (and vice-versa)
Community Alliance to Promote Education

- 10 after-school Community Learning Centers
- A focus on literacy and math development
- Small groups or one-on-one
- Research on Waterford Reading Program
- Research on program efficacy
- Adapted to community needs
What’s next?

Education Redefined