Rationale: Standards 9

Pre-Professional Growth Plan

By Emily Hunter

To demonstrate my proficiency in Standard 9, I created a pre-professional growth plan to help me grow and develop into a better-rounded individual. In this PPGP, I self-assessed myself on how I felt I measured up in my skills based on the Pre-Professional Growth Domains, Kentucky Teacher Standards, and the Dispositions. I then created a plan for how to improve two of my areas of growth as well as reflect on my professional growth since ED 300. I then finished out the document by completing a summative reflection concerning the entire Pre-Professional Growth Plan.

During multiple education classes, I completed the PPGP. In CAP 2 and CAP 3, I had to self-assess how well I thought I performed in regards to Kentucky’s Teacher Standards. I looked at each standard as well as indicators of each standard to rank myself on how well I thought I performed on each of them. Based on this self-assessment, I determined what areas I needed to grow in professionally. I also used student performance from the units and lessons that I taught to improve my teaching skills. For example, in a lesson that I taught, I reflected and determined that I needed to walk around more during the teaching of my lesson. Thus, the next time that I taught in a classroom, I remembered to walk around more. In my unit, I noticed that I did not have enough time to get through all the material that I had planned for, so in subsequent lessons, I made sure to plan less so that I could cover the material well enough and not try to cram in too much material. When I gave formative assessment during a lesson, it helped me determine if the students were learning the material the way I was teaching it. If they performed well, I knew that I could keep doing what I was doing. If they performed poorly, I knew to adjust my teaching strategies. I also had some of the teachers that I taught with fill out student teacher evaluations on me so that I could have targeted areas to improve upon on in the future. Two of these evaluations are included with my unit and lesson that I submitted for my portfolio. Feedback from these professionals was very important to my development and to creating my PPGP. I was also lucky that in some education classes, I taught lessons in front of my peers. These peers would then give me feedback on how to improve. Using all of these pieces, I was able to create a Pre-Professional Growth Plan to target my specific areas of growth. In this plan, I choose one Kentucky Teacher Standard and one Pre-Professional Growth Domain that I felt I needed to improve upon to create a plan that targets these two standards. This growth plan included self-assessing, setting targeted areas of growth, and reflecting on past growth. I had chosen a Kentucky Teacher Standard and a Pre-Professional Growth Domain during my CAP 2 that I wanted to improve upon. Thus, in my latest PPGP, I reflected on how I improved in those particular areas. It is very important to reflect so that I can see how far I have come and that this has impacted my professional development which will in turn impact how effective my instruction is in the classroom. As I have grown and developed, it has helped me to have a bigger impact on student learning, and I hope to continue that in the future.

Ever since my first education class, I have been being taught how to create and develop a Pre-Professional Growth Plan. I created a PPGP in almost every education class that I took in college. I have been making goals and working to improve myself relative to the Kentucky Teacher Standards and Pre-Professional Growth Domains for over three years now. Filling out the PPGP has allowed me to determine the areas where I am strongest and those in which I need to grow and develop. Determining these areas of growth was crucial so that I could plan out ways to improve and exhibit growth. By doing this, I was able to improve in how well I demonstrate the KTS Standards and the Pre-Professional Growth Domains. Also, by creating the above goals, I have targeted areas where I can grow and improve during my student teaching semester. I created two goals where I hope to show growth during my student teaching semester. For the KTS Standard, I chose Standard 4.1 which discusses the importance of using a variety of instructional strategies that align with the objectives. For the growth domain, I chose 4B which stresses the importance of maintaining accurate records. Improving in these two areas will help me become a well-rounded teacher who is very knowledgeable, professional, and promotes a positive classroom environment.