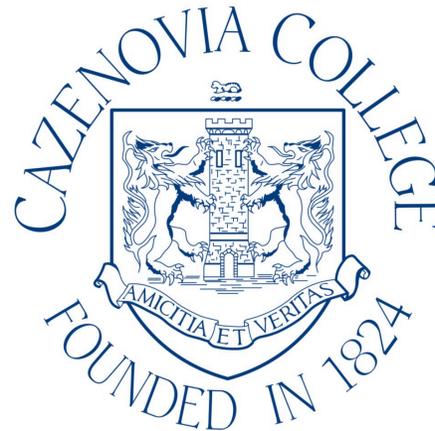




The Role of the Lead Mentor Teacher in a Cooperating School Field Placement



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What is *middle leadership* in the field of education?



What are the major benefits of assigning a lead mentor?



Lead mentors are often able to address cooperating/mentor teachers' concerns before issues escalate.



A background in teaching & mentorship contribute to their ability to: 1) co-teach orientations for teacher candidates and 2) communicate field placement goals with various stakeholders.

Additional benefits of assigning a lead mentor...

- Lead mentors are cultural 'insiders' who can provide university/college supervisors with helpful information pertaining to the cultural climate of teaching and learning in the school.
- Lead mentors can contribute another layer of evidence regarding teacher candidate performance



Additional benefits of assigning a lead mentor...

- Due to their shared rank, individual mentors/cooperating teachers may feel more comfortable approaching a lead mentor (instead of an administrator or college/university supervisor) about questions or issues pertaining to a teacher candidate.
- Lead mentors can help summarize the progress of the cooperative school placement (e.g. identify similar needs and suggestions on behalf of the group)



What will administrators talk with you about instead of field experience logistics?



Research!

Collaborative Inquiry

- *Anecdotal evidence of an increase in administrative conversations pertaining to educational research*

Discussion

Your experiences:

- Additional benefits
- Potential challenges
- Recommendations for expanding the literature

Want to collaborate?

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