

Initial Report

End of Program Survey Spring 2017

Q1 - Please enter whether you are an intern or student teacher:

Please enter whether you are an intern or student teacher:

Intern

intern

Intern

Intern

Intern

Student teacher

Student Teacher

resident

Intern

Intern

Intern

Intern

Intern

Student teacher

Q2 - To what extent do you feel the Teacher Education Program has prepared you for the teaching profession? Was there room for improvement? Please elaborate on your answer.

To what extent do you feel the Teacher Education Program has prepared you...

Great preparation! Going to teach during the day and getting to talk about it at night was the perfect way to learn how to be a teacher.

room for much improvement

I feel as prepared as I can be for being in charge of my own classroom. SIOP objectives needed to be taught more clearly, earlier in the program. Other than that the program was great. The teachers are super supportive and are the reason I was able to make through such a hard program.

I think the Teacher Education Program gave me the knowledge to educate a variety of students with different backgrounds. The professors were excited to teach and extremely helpful with whatever I needed.

Yes

Not enough hands on experience. Too much observing without actually having real scenarios. I learned more from my years as a substitute in regards to classroom management. However, my lesson planning vastly improved.

I feel very prepared for the teaching profession. I have loved being able to work alongside a mentor teacher and learn the ropes. I have learned how to handle different situations and many teaching strategies. Improvements I would suggest would be to have the student teacher's role more defined, that way everyone knows what they are there for. I think it would also be important to ensure more teaching opportunities or observations.

The Residency program needs to rethink the amount of coursework given during each semester that the residents are at their assignment school. I felt that I was too overwhelmed with completing my assignments and spent too much time working on classwork when I should have been spending time with my students. I feel somewhat prepared as I have been in the classroom since August, but again, I spent too much time on homework. I wish that there would have been more consistency with the classroom observations. Additionally, there should be an incorporation of EL certification in the program, as the EL population keeps growing within MNPS. If Belmont wants her graduates to be successful, EL endorsement should be part of the package.

I feel that the program prepared me well for the teaching profession. I felt very prepared in writing lessons! I think the classroom management experience could be improved.

I feel like the program prepared me for a lot of theory but lacked in the practical area. That is, I know what to do in a perfect, ideal classroom. But that's not always going to be the case--rarely, actually. So the nitty-gritty of what to do on a daily basis was learned through painful trial and error. I needed the professors to stop being so optimistic and tell us really what to expect.

This program has been invaluable to me as I enter into the teaching profession. I have grown leaps and bounds through this program and internship over the past year. I recognized how my time at Belmont made me more knowledgeable than the first year teachers I encountered at my school and it made me more hireable as a first year teacher. I felt supported and was encouraged to be the best I could be the entire time by the staff.

Need more time in the classroom. A lot of tedious paperwork when more should have been put into classroom lessons than Belmont work

It prepared me. The actual internship I felt was most useful.

I feel very prepared to have my own classroom. I am nervous about being in a room by myself. I think adding a part where the mentor teacher steps out in progression should/could be added.

Q3 - Did your practicums and clinical placements provide you with experiences in diverse environments? Please elaborate about your experiences.

Did your practicums and clinical placements provide you with experiences in...

Yes. Getting to work in a charter, and previously visit upper and lower class public schools as well as magnet and private schools helped me know the differences in the environments. Great variety, great diversity!

yes

Yes. I taught in MNPS and Sumner County in 1st & 4th grade, both very different experiences.

Yes, both of my clinical placements were with a diverse communities of students. I worked with students from a wide range of cultures who spoke a multitude of languages and I learned what they valued. My practicum s were great because I got to work with varying age groups of students. I was able to work with elementary, middle, and high school students. I was able to see what worked, what didn't work, and determine what age group I would be the most effective at teaching.

I think so. The experience was what I made it. Belmont and the administration at my school didn't quite communicate expectations for me teaching, but I had a good relationship with my mentor teacher and was able to get a good experience. Also my experiences prior to my internship helped as well.

No

Yes, I got to learn about many different cultures and how to incorporate them into the classroom. I also learned what an amazing experience it is for both the students and the teacher to receive first hand accounts about different people. It is also great for students to learn about other's different from them and how to work together.

I was at a school that is very diverse, and I greatly enjoyed my time there. I had a number of EL students as well as many students from different nationalities and ethnicities.

Yes, I feel like my classes and placements provided me with very diverse students and SES backgrounds. My first placement was a school of a low SES status and the second placement was more of a middle class placement.

Yes, I liked the practicum experiences. However, once Teresa Snyder left, everything was very disorganized and confusing. Because I was an intern, I don't know if that issue was resolved, but I sincerely hope so.

Absolutely. My school has a lot of different needs and students. I was able to work with kids from many different backgrounds and I have established a foundation for supporting many different needs.

Was in the same school the entire school year

Yes, the school I was at has a very diverse background and I was able to experience many new things.

Yes. My classroom and school was very diverse. I got to visit several grade levels and interact with many different cultures.

Q4 - To what extent do you feel your courses and clinical experiences have prepared you for teaching a variety of learners? Please elaborate.

To what extent do you feel your courses and clinical experiences have prep...

Lots of emphasis on diversity and differentiation. Loved it

diverse learners, little teaching

I feel very prepared because during my different placements I was able to work with all kinds of different students. I was in an inclusion classroom, worked with ELL students, different RTI groups, and students from different socioeconomic backgrounds and cultures.

Diverse Learners was a course that I was apprehensive about but my professor was extremely knowledgeable. I used many of the things Dr. Ivey-Soto taught me in my placements. I also think about students from a different perspective because of this class. My mentor teacher also gave me great ideas, advice, and knowledge about modifications and how to handle learners with an IEP or 504 plan.

Yes the professors were helpful with their meaningful anecdotes

Not enough variety. Not enough age differentiation or social class diversity. And absolutely no experience with people of differing abilities.

My clinical experience has prepared me beyond what any knowledge in a textbook can give you. While I did receive a lot of great information through my classes, I would have loved for what I am doing during the school day to be more connected to classes. Since I took my undergraduate courses at Belmont, I was a little disappointed that the majority of classes in the master's program were the same from undergrad. It would have also been helpful to receive more strategies and methods of how to teach all subjects.

I spent the majority of my time with the intervention students and not enough time with the higher-achieving students. My school was leveled at the beginning of the year, and that is probably the reason, but I do not feel prepared to teach high, middle, and low-achieving students.

I think that my courses well prepared me for a variety of learners. I would like for the classes to focus more on differentiating instruction.

This was definitely covered--maybe even a little too much. When every single class we take dedicates a week or more to cultural diversity or a multicultural classroom, it gets a little old. I think there needs to be more communication between the professors to ensure as little overlap as possible. For instance, I was questioning why we were going over diversity in a Middle School Perspectives class when we hadn't even learned about middle school yet.

The methods classes specifically have made teaching to different learning styles and needs that much easier. I have strategies and resources to fall back on when I am having trouble meeting the learning needs of a student.

Being in a classroom with diverse learners has taught me firsthand how to differentiate my lessons

I think they prepared me. I wish there was more direct relation to my actual internship, but hey prepared me very well.

The hands on learning was the best. Doing activities in the classroom as acting it out was not realistic. But by being in the schools and dealing with situations that helped the most.

Q5 - Please list course assignments that you feel were most applicable to your clinical experience and why.

Please list course assignments that you feel were most applicable to your c...

The Lesson Plans and unit plans

literacy, science, math

TEAM evaluations, data based projects, micro teaching lessons and coming up with integrated lesson plans.

The first assignment that I felt was applicable was reading a book called Future Wise in Contemporary Issues in Education. This text changed my perspective about how we educate students. The Integrated lesson plan for Middle School Perspectives showed me how difficult it can be to plan across different contents, but that students gain a better and deeper understanding of content when they see how it is connected. The case studies in Literacy Across Secondary Curriculum were great because I had to think about how I would tackle different areas of student need. I also was able to collaborate with my peers which was always great.

Case study, reflections, lesson plans

Art

Resources, strategies to use in the classroom, getting feedback about my teaching, and getting advice from classmates and professors about situations at school.

Diverse Learners case study - I had to develop a relationship with not only the student, but also his parents. I looked at all times of information from his cumulative folder as well as observe him in the classroom. It took a lot of time and effort, but I feel that I really know that student, and that I could give him the accommodations that he needs and deserves to become successful.

Data Based Decision Making Project - allowed me to focus on an intervention and how to analyze the data I got from the intervention.

I won't list courses, I will list professors--because they make the class applicable. Dr. Barton-Arwood, Kate McGowan, Dr. Ivey-Soto. It didn't matter what their class was called. They found a way to make it applicable.

Tier 2 Behavior Management Plan and the Data Based Decision projects were the most valuable as they were directly correlated to what I was doing in my classroom and they were things that I would actually do as a classroom teacher in terms of gathering data, designing an intervention, and assessing the progress of the children.

Cannot remember

Making a classroom management plan and the data based decision making project; I will use the actual plan and collecting data was good practice for next year.

The assignments that caused us to interact with our students or ask our mentor teachers questions were for sure the most helpful.

Q6 - Please list course assignments that you feel were least applicable to your clinical experience and why.

Please list course assignments that you feel were least applicable to your...

Having to plan and perform a lesson in ten minutes in Social Studies methods were stressful and unrealistic.

diverse learners

Most seemed to be good, but some of the reading responses could get to be a little much with all the other work we were expected to accomplish on top of that.

Almost all of the assignments were applicable, but I think that the one thing that needs to be emphasized and worked on thoroughly is writing lesson plans. I feel like initially in my Methods course I did not get as strong of an introduction to writing lesson plans as I could have.

Reading quizzes, chapter reviews, reading responses - just busy work where I copied answers from the book. None of those required me to think hard

Contemporary issues

Chapter reviews, etc. that could have been talked about in class. Assignments that did not apply to the work I was doing in the classroom.

Literacy chapter reviews were the least applicable assignments to my clinic experience as they were monotonous and redundant. They were supposed to help me prepare for my Teaching Reading Praxis; however, there was little to learn from doing those chapter reviews as there are no true/false on the Praxis or short answers that deal with one specific strategy on the Praxis.

Literacy 2 - Chapter Quizzes

Middle School Perspectives. There's not enough to learn about middle school for an entire semester (as discussed earlier). Literacy in the secondary curriculum. That class was only applicable to the English teachers. Every other intern had trouble connecting it to their subject matter.

Early Childhood Methods was the least applicable only because it wasn't tied to my internship in a meaningful way. (To the point where I was asked to leave my internship for practicing hours outside of my class.)

Chapter reviews and summaries

Any textbook work because it was harder to apply directly to teaching

We had some busy work that was not helpful. These would include chapter reviews or quizzes.

Q7 - Are there any areas in which you feel unprepared as a teacher? Please elaborate.

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No.

I never taught a full day, practical teaching

Not really, the administration side is a little intimidating but that is something you really learn on the job because every place is a little different.

I feel somewhat unprepared in writing Curriculum and Unit Plans. We did not touch on it a lot in classes and very little in my placements.

Classroom management

Yes, end of the year observations as a teacher, gladis portfolio reviews.

It will be different to be on my own and not have anyone else with me in the room.

I feel that I am unprepared for all the of paperwork that is involved in being a teacher. Tons of paperwork, meetings, and information are required, but how am I supposed to know what to do with all of that?

I feel like I could be more confident in classroom management. I learned a lot about classroom management in my placements, but wanted to learn more in my courses.

Again, the nitty-gritty everyday. How to interact with administration; how to discipline, how to communicate with parents, etc. Furthermore, a lot of the class (especially in the undergraduate minor) are geared toward elementary. I understand that there are more elementary than secondary in the program, but it left me feeling very unprepared because all of the strategies were geared towards children.

Nothing specific comes to mind.

Not in classroom as much - don't feel like I had respect of students I should've had.

Nope

No I just a job. I feel fully equipped.

Q8 - Please describe how the education program has changed you. What are you taking away from this experience?

Please describe how the education program has changed you.

More caring, more self-reflective.

not much

It has changed me in several ways, like my ability to be aware and accommodate many of the different kinds of needs my students may have, given me confidence that I can be a great teacher, and the knowledge that I need to take care of myself if I want to be a good teacher.

I now look at students differently. I know my purpose and what I want to do as an educator. Going into this program I knew I wanted to teach. Coming out of this program, I now know where and how I want to teach. I realized how beneficial all of my educational experiences have been and what a great education can do for students.

A lifelong learner

N/a

I feel confident going into my first year. I cannot imagine starting out without having an experienced person to help me along the way. I have created relationships that will help further my career and support me.

I enjoyed the education program, but it was extremely difficult being the experimental group of the Residency program. I feel that many of the times we were given the short end of the stick as we oftentimes got looked over as the new residents were selected. I know what I'm doing as a teacher, but only because I experienced a full school year at a public school.

I am taking away the lesson of hard work and persistence. This program and student teaching was not always easy to manage, but throughout this program I've realized that I am a hard worker and have a strong ethic.

I learned to rely on my own instincts and to take in as much during student teaching as I could.

I am much more confident now as a teacher and as a professional in my field.

My love for my students and their interests

I definitely have a broader lens in regards to diversity in many ways. I feel like I experienced things that I did not personally experience growing up in school.

It has challenged me and prepared me for various experiences that I may face.

Q9 - At this point, have you been offered a teaching position? If so, where (district, school, grade level)?

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No.

no

No

No, I have not been offered a teaching position.

6th grade math, Memphis Rise Academy Charter School

No

Yes, MNPS, Charlotte Park Elementary School, 4. I was unable to take the position because I am not EL certified.

No.

Yes, MNPS, Bellshire Elementary Kindergarten and Stanford Elementary 1-3 - Elementary Grades

Yes.

No

Not applying for a job

Yes, Valor Voyager, 6th or 7th science

I am interviewing in Smith County for a few positions.

Q10 - Please elaborate on ways the education department can improve.

Please elaborate on ways the education department can improve.

Stress to students that jobs will come along AFTER graduation!!! This was literally never told to my classes.

totally revise residency program

I would of liked a little more interview training and it might of been good if we got some of the holiday breaks off (I know that the school breaks did not always line up with Belmont's but I think most of us would appreciated a little time off)

I think I had a great educational experience. The one thing I wished that we had touched on more is writing curriculum.

I like the small class sizes and the small department. I just think the confusion of the license needs to be worked out better. I know that's not an easy thing, I just think that things weren't communicated appropriately and things weren't done when they should have been- and I know I'm not the only one who was affected.

Needs to be more hands on. The program is not conducive to working individuals. As a substitute my hours should be worked into observation credits.

Incorporating classes for EL certification would have been extremely beneficial.

Be more communicative with the Residents as there is so much information to be had throughout the program. Assignments should be considerate of the residents as they are working full time! Observations need to be more consistent, and should actually happen when they are supposed to happen otherwise residents and mentor teachers are left hanging. Make sure that the residents are fully aware of the licensing process as it is long and hard.

I think the education department can improve in the licensing process!

COMMUNICATE. It is evident that the professors have no idea what's happening in other education classrooms, and it shows. The assignments, the material, and the takeaways from each class are so similar. I think that professors need to communicate what's happening in their classroom.

Nothing specific comes to mind.

More time in the classroom

I wish there were more direct applications to the internship

Possibly provide more resources for positions that are opening in the district and surrounding ones as well.