

Summary of Mentors' Comments

Spring 2021 – Spring 2022

Mentors present by position: One early childhood teacher, two elementary teachers (2nd and 4th grade), and two instrumental/vocal music (director of bands) teachers - Middle & High school.

➤ Comments:

- The scoring rubric for candidate evaluation is easy to use.
- The students love the student teacher & we are excited
- Student Teachers had opportunity to work with multiple levels of band directors in 6th -12th grades (allowing candidates to see four paths of learning).
- The candidate has a good background and is doing great (learning about all four subjects)!
- I'm excited because my student teacher accepted an offer letter from our school. Even though she will be teaching a higher grade, I will continue to serve as her mentor teacher.
- The candidate was "awesome and willing to jump into the flow!"
- The Teachers and administrators were so impressed with the LU candidate.
- Watermark [assessment system] was pretty user friendly.

➤ Suggestions:

- Offer students time to self-reflect consistently.
- Work on the developmental level of timing and chunking with students.
- Use higher levels of thinking and allow time for students to about answers before giving them to students.
- Make sure to use different ways to communicate instruction and not just lecture style.
- Need to start clinical experience earlier from the very beginning (so candidates do not miss the observation of classroom/band rules and procedures, important student task that happen at the beginning of school, etc.).
- Can candidates start (student teach) in the fall during fall marching band?
- The LU academic calendar has moved up in the fall; therefore, student teachers can start early.
- To improve co-construction of clinical experience, ensure all parties are pulled together at the beginning (start connecting the semester before). Suggestion: dissemination of a calendar, continue open communication dialog, etc.
- More direct communication between the Clinical Supervisor & the University Supervisor.