

Missouri Transforming Educator Preparation (MoTEP) Meeting Notes

Background

Missouri and other select states have been invited to join the Network for Transforming Educator Preparation (NTEP) for two years which began October 1, 2015. Since then, there have been three statewide meetings. The fifty participants invited to these state meetings represent higher education, PK-12 education, professional associations and organizations and the Departments of Higher Education and Elementary and Secondary Education. Together these individuals make up MoTEP: Missouri Transforming Educator Preparation. This group is collaboratively formulating specific goals aligned to the work in other NTEP states in the following areas:

- Licensure
- Program Approval
- Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting
- Communication.

MoTEP, as a part of NTEP, provides the opportunity to leverage the collective knowledge of the national network while capitalizing on the expertise in our state with a goal of putting excellent educators in every school.

Highlights from the state meetings

We have more in common than we do separate. Participants of MoTEP have commented throughout the first three meetings that the commonalities between teacher/leader preparation in higher education and teacher/leader practice in PK-12 are extensive and significant. They are extensive in that there is a shared purpose of promoting excellent education for all students. They are significant in that strong partnerships between higher education and PK-12 education, professional associations and organizations, and the two state agencies represent a powerful strategy for collaboratively working towards what is ultimately right for Missouri students.

Licensure

Refine Missouri's system of licensure to ensure it reflects a career path that promotes continuous learning and requires all routes to certification meet high quality standards.

Participants working on this goal propose to research different tiered licensure systems to determine what they could potentially offer to Missouri's current licensure system to promote continuous learning and to ensure that all candidates meet high standards.

Program Approval

Clinical experiences prepare candidates to make a positive impact from day one through the development of collaborative statewide PK-12/HE partnership

Participants involved in this goal are collaboratively working to improve the clinical experience for teacher candidates by expanding quality clinical opportunities and experiences. They note the importance of honoring cooperating teachers for their important role in helping prepare teacher candidates to demonstrate effectiveness in their first year.

Develop a valid measure of EPP quality with a set of clear standards that promotes continuous improvement

Participants working on this goal are striving to refine the program approval process based on continuous, demonstrated improvement as opposed to judging programs.

Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting

A data sharing system informs and supports continuous improvement of preparation programs

Participants working on this goal are exploring possible ways for data from PK-12 to inform educator preparation program improvement.

A data sharing system informs the ongoing development of 1st year teachers and beyond

Participants working on this goal are exploring possible ways for teacher candidate data from the pre-service experience be used to support the continuous development of early career teachers.

Communication and Stakeholder Engagement

Transparency and inclusiveness drives consensus for the work of MoTEP

Participants working on this goal are developing strategies to ensure stakeholders are updated and informed on the progress of MoTEP. One way this will occur is through MoTEP participants regularly communicating about this work with their constituents. This plan for mutual communication will also include available avenues for gathering input from all stakeholders.