



# TEUPAC – SUNY Buffalo State

## MINUTES FROM: *October 16, 2020*

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Meeting called to order at: 10:00AM

### I. Welcome and initial business:

#### a. Introductions in the Chat (name, organization, and role) – 16 Participants

- i. Pixita del Prado Hill – PDS Co-Director
- ii. Keli Garas-York – PDS Co-Director
- iii. Andrea Minor – PDS/EELEL Graduate Assistant
- iv. Wendy Paterson – SOE Dean
- v. Julie Henry – EELEL Chair
- vi. Fran Paskowitz – Buffalo State, EELEL
- vii. Andrew Hashey – Buffalo State, EXE (Holmes Elem.)
- viii. Angela Patti – Buffalo State, EXE
- ix. Corinne Kindzierski, Buffalo State, EELEL
- x. Kathy Brachmann – Buffalo State, EELEL (School #18 and Holmes Elem.)
- xi. Mary Wolf – Buffalo State, Art Education (BPS, KenTon)
- xii. Molly Marcinelli, Principal Como Park, Lancaster
- xiii. Patricia Recchio - Buffalo State Teacher Certification Office
- xiv. Selenid Frey – Buffalo State, EELEL (Niagara Charter School)
- xv. Wynnie Fisher – Buffalo State, SSE (Maritime Charter)
- xvi. Heather Lyon -- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology, Lew-Port

- b. Dr. Paterson expressed gratitude to Patty Recchio for her work with the teacher candidates and the certification process.

### I. Old Business:

#### a. Updates

##### • SOE Dean

- Dr. Paterson expressed that she is pleased with what is going on with the teacher candidates and their placements. She has recently submitted the department’s plan regarding how we commit to training the same level of quality teachers in the programs.
- This is a challenging time for our teachers. Considering that, please send Dr. Paterson the “Wow” stories since they are important stories to tell, share and keep in our records.
- edTPA is on pause this year, so students need to take the ATS-W in its place. Testing sites are open so, teacher candidates need to register and submit their emergency certifications. Any questions should be directed to Patty Recchio
- PDS is relatively safe from budget cuts. NYS announced that they will be cutting budgets including those to SUNY at up to 25%
- Dr. Paterson also expressed her gratitude to the professors for their work during these trying times.
- Fran Paskowitz: Congratulated Dr. Paterson for Boss’ Day and said thank you. “She is the most amazing and helpful boss!”

##### • PDS

##### ◦ Report on PD Participation

- a. PD was provided in lieu of the conference and was put together with the advice of stakeholders.
  - i. 1183 PDS stakeholders registered for PD sessions
  - ii. 114 evaluations have been completed



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1. Participants found PD informative
  2. Session leaders were viewed as knowledgeable and helpful
  3. Learned new information and are comfortable using it
  4. Will impact future students
- b. Overview of PD
- i. Remote Learning Tools: Flipgrid, Google tools, digital assessment tools
  - ii. Effective and engaging remote instruction
  - iii. Trauma and resilience
  - iv. Engagement
  - v. Mentoring
  - vi. Collaboration with CEEDAR and FranklinCovey
  - vii. The sessions were initially presented as synchronous Zoom sessions, but they are now accessible as asynchronous recorded sessions. Those interested in participating can go to the PDS website and register for sessions.
- c. PDS faculty can also join us in the PDS Faculty Discussion Groups, held once a month. To learn more, email Dr. del Prado for the Zoom link.
- d. Trauma and Resilience PD links have been extended to the end of October. You can register for them on the PDS site.
- **Promote Upcoming Events**
    - a. Upcoming PD
      - i. Career Development in a Remote Environment: 5 Tips for New Professionals
        1. Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm – 5:30pm
        2. Given by the Director of the Career Development Center (CDC), Denise Harris.
    - b. What's Next:
      - i. Survey link
        1. [https://buffalostate.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3BIJkvF37VyUp4p](https://buffalostate.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3BIJkvF37VyUp4p)
      - ii. PDS PD registration link
        1. <https://pds.buffalostate.edu/professional-development-pds-partners>
    - c. New Fall 2020 Newsletter is now available in the PDS website
      - i. <https://pds.buffalostate.edu/sites/pds.buffalostate.edu/files/uploads/Newsletters/PDSNewsletter2020Fall.pdf>
- **Project EASE**
    - Look for the information about this program in the PDS Fall 2020 Newsletter. It is meant to be an informal mentoring support for new teachers (especially those who were student teaching in spring 2020).

## II. New Business – Partnership and Collaboration During the Academic Year

### a. Stakeholder needs for new PD?

- Molly Marcinelli: She is startled by the results of reading scores indicating learning loss since March 2020. The school has been brainstorming with the parents on what programs would incentivize students to read. This is especially important to promote reading at home.
  - Heather Lyon: There are gaps this year in ways that have not existed before. Even though teachers understand that the gap was created due to the closure in March because of



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COVID-19, we still need to ensure that RTI is not addressing those gaps as a cognitive delay, but instead as timing and circumstantial issues. We also need to keep an eye on the socioemotional state of the adults surrounding the students who are struggling. We need to promote self-care since doing the best right now is not the same as our very best during other years. These are not ideal circumstances, so we need to support the adults as well.

### **b. Leveraging Common Resources?**

- Pixita del Prado: Is there any space in which we can respond to the previous issues? Possibly professional development to address the learning gaps in the future.
  - Heather Lyon: Modify the language we are using and move toward “sharpening the saw”. How do we address different situations and how do we perform in front of students? How can we establish healthy boundaries between our personal life and our professional life? How does remote instruction affect our availability with parents?
    - a. Molly Marcinelli: We need to really be aware of how to establish those boundaries. Everyone must keep in mind to spend time with other people and balance our own lives because that is how we will become better teachers for our students.
  - Fran Paskowitz: Fewer people are going into schools since what they are seeing around that environment is now frightening. Is there a component of being able to reach out to parents since they have now become co-teachers to their children? We need to teach teacher candidates how to work with and support parents.
    - a. Molly Marcinelli: As a principal, she spends most of her time collaborating with parents. However, teachers are dealing with parents more and more during these times. So, how can we teach our students to be there for everyone, parents included?
  - Selenid Frey: In regard to supporting the reading gap and how can we support it remotely, she is already piloting a program. In Niagara Charter School, they are assessing students right now for their reading and they are finding the students who are behind. She also provided some ideas for future sponsored programs:
    - a. Videos made by undergrad students oriented for K-1 involving phonics and phonemic awareness. How can students access engagement videos remotely? Can we do short engagement videos? What programs already exist? Can we do program reviews of those already existing programs and provide teachers with a database? Could we make show and tell videos about phonics? Etc. We could also connect with parents and talk to them about the skills children need to develop. We could present this as a newsletter containing the things that parents can address at home.
    - b. Dr. Paterson: Brought to everyone’s attention the “School Away from School” website. We need to put more resources in there and focus on updating it.
      - i. <http://www.buffalostateschoolawayfromschool.com/>
      - ii. Can we promote this website through the PDS network?
  - Kathy Brachmann: Proposed the idea of going online with parents and having conversations with them to support remote instruction and the current learning gap. Parents have reported that the novelty of remote instruction has worn off so, how can we modify our instruction to be more meaningful and engage students?
    - a. Dr. Paterson: What if PDS partner schools announce to parents that we can have office hours with a professional/faculty member? Each faculty member hosts 30-



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minute sessions with parents. We can have different sessions for varying subjects: math, literacy, etc.

- b. Angela Patti: Expressed concern about the faculty office hours and suggested that we talk to the school administrators to make sure that they are onboard and that we don't give parents misinformation due to the variability in curriculums and teacher expectations.
  - i. Molly Marcinelli: She said her school would be on board with the phonic skills, decoding, thinking and reading comprehension, sigh words, and phonemic awareness. For K-3, we should focus on the basics. They are addressing the higher-level skills since we need to first teach decoding skills and that is the area they are struggling with.
  - ii. Andrew Hashey: Believes that teacher candidates are well positioned to make short 15-minutes videos for literacy support.
- o Andrew Hashey: How can we support the socioemotional state of the teachers?
- What technology can PDS promote to support you?
  - o Heather Lyon: Believes that we need to focus on how to provide meaningful instruction in a remote environment. How can we engage students to turn on their cameras during class? What about students who do not turn on their cameras because they are embarrassed and do not want other people to see their homes? How do we respect those students while also keeping them engaged in class? What can we do about the awkward "Zoom pause"?

### III. CAEP (*Not addressed during the meeting because of lack of time*)

#### a. Mentor Program Update and Discussion

#### b. GaPP: Graduate and Program Preparedness Questions

- What do you notice is a strength of SUNY Buffalo State graduates (in teacher education)?
- What do you notice is an area for improvement for SUNY Buffalo State graduates (in teacher education)?
- What 3 suggestions would you make to improve the quality of our teacher education program?

### IV. NEXT MEETING:

#### a. Friday March 12, 2021 at 3:00pm

### V. Adjourn:

#### a. Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

#### b. Thank you for your participation in PDS!

#### c. Please watch the PDS website and Consortium announcements for upcoming PD

- <https://pds.buffalostate.edu/professional-development-pds-partners>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Andrea Minor  
EELEL and PDS Graduate Assistant