

Education Unit Professional Dispositions Expected of Candidates

Faculty model and encourage all candidates to reflect dispositions that represent the values and attitudes expected of professionals in the field of education. These dispositions are based on the Education Unit's conceptual framework and encompass several behavioral indicators within the three program outcomes. As candidates move through their programs it is expected they demonstrate their increasing ability to:

Promote Diversity

Candidates value all aspects of human development including the diverse ideas, views, strengths, styles of learning, talents, and abilities of each learner. They are committed to the inclusion of multiple perspectives, voices, cultures, languages, experiences, and values. They recognize that each individual brings a depth and richness to the whole that helps develop understanding of individual complexity and appreciation for one another.

Engage in Collaborative Endeavors

Candidates demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that promote respectful and collaborative relationships with families, colleagues and other professionals to support student learning and well-being. In their work with others, candidates model and encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

Think Critically

Candidates systematically reflect on their practice and constructive criticism from others to make informed decisions and grow as effective educators and specialists. In their work with others, they use a variety of formal and informal assessments to evaluate progress and performances, identify individual and group needs, and modify their teaching and/or leadership strategies for program and individual growth and improvement.

Maintain Professional and Ethical Standards

Candidates understand and fulfill the ethical and professional responsibilities of educators and specialists as defined in state, national, and institutional standards. They display the emotional maturity, academic integrity, and professional commitment necessary to successfully demonstrate these standards in their work with students, families, and other professionals.

Value life-long learning

Candidates understand that professional development is a continuing process. They demonstrate the necessary skills to take responsibility for planning and pursuing their ongoing learning, reflecting with colleagues in their practice, and for contributing to the knowledge-base of the profession. In the field they act as responsible change agents by contributing to the school as a learning organization to foster student learning and well-being.

