



PURDUE UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

**College of Humanities, Education
and Social Sciences**

School of Education and Counseling

February 2022 Newsletter

Message from the Director



Happy New Year! Although the new year has chosen to begin similar to 2021, the School of Education and Counseling at PNW continues to engage future and current educators in exploring partnerships and redefining relationships with community partners; determining the required coursework and field opportunities in which candidates participate; and in re-visioning education and learning spaces to create a more just and equitable outcome for all learners.

We are encouraged by the number of our **community partners** who are open and providing instruction in multiple formats. We believe that your classroom spaces are uniquely situated and offer authentic opportunities for future educators to apply the content and theory that they learn at PNW. The willingness of your schools, centers, and the educators within them to create open, engaging, and encouraging spaces where candidates are mentored and apprenticed into our profession is nothing short of phenomenal. You and the educators who work directly with our candidates within these learning spaces, provide **mentorship** affording our candidates with opportunities for not only understanding the why's of behaviors and interactions, but also the hows. It is through these opportunities of practice found within your schools and centers that candidates develop and refine their own theory of teaching and learning that allows them to effectively plan and act within classrooms—to have a positive impact on the learning of all students with whom they work.

As I indicated in October, we are currently implementing changes made to our curriculum last year. One such change is the implementation of a **course in engineering** for all elementary education majors. To meet REPA3 standards, this course introduces future educators to engineering concepts, the engineering design process, and unifying concepts science, engineering, and technology. An applied course, candidates are developing and refining their understandings of these concepts so that they can apply them in classrooms. Further, we continue to explore opportunities and input from you for how we might better prepare future educators to meet the changing face of instruction. We hope that you will take part in a five-minute survey as part of this process.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey by Monday, February 28, 2022

Wishing you continued success for the year!

Anne E. Gregory, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

Director, School of Education and Counseling

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Reinvigorated Partnerships, Robust Preparation

Office of Partnership & Outreach Gains New School Partners

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There is exciting news coming out of the Office of Partnerships and Outreach this Spring regarding new/renewed partnerships with five districts—leading to 24 candidates placed at these sites for Spring 2022. Additionally, meetings are currently scheduled for even more new partnerships.

- East Porter County School Corporation - 3 Professional Year candidates
- School City of Whiting – 2 Professional Year candidates
- Calumet Christian – 1 Student Teacher
- LaPorte Community School Corporation – 15 candidates (field and student teaching)
- MSD of New Durham – 3 Professional Year candidates

In January, I presented to all teacher candidates taking field-based courses this Spring semester. In the 15-minute presentation *Field: Students Don't Know What They Don't Know*, I walked candidates through various comments submitted by cooperating teachers and university supervisors to the Fall 2021 Disposition Report. The presentation, aimed to communicate the do's and don'ts of field experience, revealed to the candidates what kinds of observations are being made of them while at placement sites.

Transforming education
Transforming you!

Lastly, we had 6 student teachers in Fall 2021 successfully complete our new Accelerated Student Teacher Model. Both our new and current partnerships throughout the Region continue to provide strong preparation for our teacher candidates. Thank you!

Candid Conversations with Tim Wise

Race, Racism, Anti-Racism and Civic Responsibilities Presentation

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 | 3:30-6:30 pm

PNW Hammond Campus—Y Jean Chamber's Auditorium (or join virtually!)

In this discussion, Tim Wise shares how to move beyond window dressing to achieve institutional equity. Specifically, Wise examines DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) efforts in educational, government, and/or corporate settings, and how those efforts either support real change or perpetuate institutional inequity.

As he explains in this speech, much of what gets done under the rubric of DEI doesn't challenge fundamental cultural norms or practices that contribute to inequity, rendering DEI efforts DOA (Dead on Arrival), regardless of the good intentions of those charged with implementing them. Until those structural impediments to change are explored and altered, institutions are setting up their DEI officers for failure, letting down their employees, staff and/or students of color, and doing real damage to the cause of justice. Wise will provide examples of structural changes and institutional norms that promote equity, so that participants can walk away with tangible ideas on how to move real DEI work forward.

More information about the event can be found here: [Tim Wise Event Information](#)



Passport PNW Starts Strong

Pilot Program Success Leads to Growth

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Passport PNW, the new initiative out of PNW's Office of Concurrent Enrollment Programs (OCEP) and in partnership with the School of Education & Counseling, is in full swing! Our 2021-2022 pilot included two high schools close to the Hammond campus – the Hammond Academy of Science and Technology (HAST) and East Chicago Central High School. At the beginning of the academic year, existing concurrent enrollment students at the pilot schools were surveyed regarding their interest in the Passport PNW program and 20% of the respondents indicated an interest in Elementary Education. This spring semester will begin the official outreach to those students, beginning to connect them with campus and SOEC staff and faculty.

The 2022-2023 academic year will see some exciting growth of the program, including:

- The addition of 3 more partner schools;
- A streamlined process (including high school students indicating their interest as part of the registration process, allowing us to connect with them much earlier);
- And the more intentional scheduling of on-campus classes, allowing high school students to take courses on the Hammond and Westville campuses as part of their high school schedule.

As a reminder, Passport PNW is a program that allows high school students to take up to one year of college coursework towards their specific plan of study while in high school, and allowing them direct admission into their major at PNW as a college sophomore (essentially, 1+3 plans). Passports include a focus on equity and access, and include activities and supports for high school students to help alleviate these barriers.



PNW Spring Break

March 14-18. Field Experience Candidates will not attend this week. Student Teachers will follow placement site calendar.

Substitute Teaching

Teacher candidates are not allowed to fill the role of substitute teacher while completing field experience or Student Teaching hours.

Supporting our Community & School Partners

Let us Know How we Can Equip You

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The PNW School of Education & Counseling's Office of Partnership & Outreach continually looks for ways to best serve our community and school partners.

Whether that be sharing job openings with candidates, opening employment pipelines in your districts, or sending quality interns to your facilities, we want to **enhance the connections** we've made. If you have ideas for how our office can provide support to your teachers, counselors, or students, please email Hadassah Moore.