

Dear Student,

Welcome to the College of Education and Human Services! We look forward to working with you as you develop your knowledge of teaching and your expertise as a teacher through coursework, the development of your portfolio, community interactions, and during supervised experiences working in the field.

One important aspect of your education here with us is the development of *professional dispositions*—ways of working, thinking, and interacting with others—in three areas: Professionalism, Work Ethic, and Communication Skills. In order to support your development in these areas we are sharing with you a list of key dispositions. Failure to demonstrate these dispositions through your behaviors at any point in the program may jeopardize your continuation in your program. We expect you to monitor your own development of these professional dispositions, beginning now and continuing throughout your teaching career. When you are working in a classroom for your Practicum, this form, with your added reflections on your ongoing development, will be one of the six required artifacts. The ability to reflect on one's own growth, strengths, and challenges is a central characteristic of effective teachers.

In order to support you in this process, your course instructors and your advisor will be following the development of your professional dispositions. They are prepared to provide any assistance you might need. If, over time, a number of them have concerns, you may be contacted for a conference in which we will agree to a plan for your continued success in the program. Please speak with your advisor if you have any concerns or questions about this process. We see it as one more way we can help you become an effective teacher.

Sincerely,

The Faculty
Departments of Curriculum & Foundations;
Teacher Education;
Health, Physical Education, Recreation and
Dance
College of Education and Human Services

Student List of Professional Dispositions*
For Student Reference

Communication Skills*

1.	Demonstrate appropriate verbal communication.	
2.	Demonstrate appropriate written communication.	
3.	Demonstrate a disposition toward inquiry and problem solving.	
4.	Work collaboratively with parents, colleagues, and professionals.	
5.	Demonstrate consistently positive attitudes toward learning and teaching.	
6.	Accept responsibility for decisions and actions.	
7.	Establish and maintain mutually respectful interactions.	

Work Ethic*

8.	Demonstrate regular attendance.	
9.	Demonstrate punctuality.	
10.	Complete work in a timely manner.	
11.	Demonstrate organizational skills.	
12.	Observe all pertinent policies and procedures.	

Professionalism*

13.	Demonstrate a commitment to working with children, youth, and their families in developmentally appropriate ways.	
14.	Demonstrate an awareness of community, state, national, and world contexts that have an impact on the teaching profession and the learning process.	
15.	Treat university faculty/staff, colleagues, parents, and students fairly, equitably, and respectfully.	
16.	Accept constructive criticism and adjusts performance accordingly.	
17.	Express and demonstrate interest in and enthusiasm for teaching and learning.	
18.	Adapt to new and diverse learning situations.	
19.	Accept diverse learners and their needs.	
20.	Adapt to differences among people including differences of SES, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, language, etc.	
21.	Maintain confidentiality about student records unless disclosure serves a professionally compelling purpose or is required by law.	
22.	Demonstrate discretion when discussing colleagues, faculty, field sites, and personal information.	
23.	Respect the points of view of others.	
24.	Develop and explain professional judgments using research-based theory and practice.	
25.	Contribute meaningfully and appropriately to discussions by asking questions and giving opinions, and listening to others.	
26.	Project an appropriate professional appearance in professional settings.	
27.	Project an appropriate professional demeanor in professional settings.	
28.	Accept leadership opportunities.	
29.	Understand and practice professional ethical standards.	

*These disposition statements have been modified slightly from Kent State University