

Notre Dame of Maryland University – School of Education
2019-2020 Professional Development School (PDS) Accomplishments

NDMU formally partners with 17 public PDS schools across 4 different school systems to develop teacher interns, provide professional development to school-based faculty, and support school improvement goals. Below are just a few of the many accomplishments these partnerships have accomplished this year.

Medfield Heights Elementary School, Baltimore City Public Schools
Liaison- Lisa Pallett, Assistant Professor, SE
Site Coordinator- Stephanie Jones, Teacher at Medfield

Three teacher candidates successfully completed their internships at Medfield this year. One intern was placed at the school during the COVID pandemic and learned from his mentor how to teach remotely using technology. Partnership efforts were valuable during the pandemic. NDMU faculty member, Ryan Schaaf, provided professional development to the faculty and interns at Medfield on how to use Google Drive for online collaboration and instruction. Additionally, a newly formed group on campus, Gators Team, participated in a holiday gift drive at Medfield. They collected and donated educational games, crafts, and toys for families in need at Medfield.

Oakleigh Elementary School, Baltimore County Public Schools
Liaison – Lisa Pallett, Assistant Professor, SoE
Site Coordinator – Jaclyn Tamburo, Teacher at Oakleigh

Four teacher candidates successfully completed their internships at Oakleigh this year. One of the teacher candidates who was placed at Oakleigh during the COVID pandemic, learned quickly how to adapt to distance learning under the guidance of her mentor teacher. In addition to interning, Sara Kanwisher, volunteered to tutor students after school to help increase student achievement in reading and mathematics. Also, fourteen students from NDMU volunteered during Oakleigh's Math Night in December. During Math Night, Notre Dame students worked with Oakleigh students and parents, and engaged them in fun and educational math activities.

Arnold Elementary School – Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Liaison – Sr. Janet Mary Shields SSND, SoE
Site Coordinator – Tracey Curry, Teacher at Arnold

Arnold hosted two CAUS interns, 1 ACT intern, and 1 GEI intern this year. These interns were placed in Grades 2, 3, and 5. AACPS was very active this year in providing professional development to interns and mentors in explicit comprehension and small reading groups, math with the CRE methods, and equity-based teaching strategies. First-hand knowledge in these areas truly benefited the interns during their placements. In addition, teacher interns were busy working on their edTPA requirements – preparing and videotaping motivating and engaging

daily lessons. Self-reflection was important as they critiqued their own lessons and discussed how they may want to use specific teaching strategies differently in the future. Partnership funds were used to purchase the book, *Cooperative Discipline*. Various methods outlined in the book were used during faculty meetings to share and glean new meanings for behavior management. Mentors helped interns learn to use the MCCS and AACPS curriculum for effective lesson planning, behavior management skills, and data analysis to direct instruction.

Belvedere Elementary School+Anne Arundel Elementary School
Liaison – Sr. Janet Mary Shields SSND, SoE
Site Coordinator – Kelly Henderson, Teacher at Belvedere

Belvedere hosted two CAUS interns, one ACT intern, and one GEI intern this year. The interns worked in special education and Grade 3 classrooms. Professional development was delivered through the administration and central offices. Source teachers in math, language arts, and equity. Equity PD delved into data conversations to analyze gaps in education. The interns were busy working on their edTPA requirements, videotaping their lessons for evaluation and self-reflection. Intern experiences this year helped them to hone their teaching skills in readiness for their own classrooms in the future. Belvedere mentors were very supportive of the interns by sharing their expertise using the Maryland Common Core Standards and the AACPS curriculum.

Western High School, Baltimore City Public Schools
Liaison – Stephanie Savick, Associate Professor, SoE
Site Coordinator – Casey McConnell, Teacher at Western

One ACT intern was placed in the English Department at Western this year. The partnership offered a professional books study this year using Brene Brown's *Dare to Lead*. Eight teachers participated in the book study and gained valuable information about how vulnerability, values, trust, and resilience are each key to true teacher leadership. The partnership also offered a schoolwide professional development session to Western faculty, led by Assistant Professor, Molly Dunn entitled, *A Workshop to Practice, Learn, and Contemplate: The Application of Mindfulness for Resilient K-12 Educators*. Evaluations from both the book study and PD session were excellent.

Woodlawn High School, Baltimore County Public Schools
Liaison – Stephanie Savick, Associate Professor, SoE
Site Coordinator – Amy Schnirel, Teacher at Woodlawn

Two interns successfully completed their internships at Woodlawn High this year – 1 GEI and 1 ACT intern. Their content areas included Science and Math. The coordinating council continued their tradition of offering semester-long 'chew and chat' professional development sessions for the interns this year. These sessions allowed interns to participate in professional development topics based on their specific needs.

Integrating Mindful Breathing Practices into Our Schools. The second workshop was led by Professor, Dr. Christa deKleine, titled, *Examining the Role of African American Vernacular English (AAVE) on Student Achievement*. Feedback from participants indicated that both sessions were very useful for immediate classroom practice. Partnership funds were used to develop a professional library for interns and mentors to access from year to year.

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Site Coordinator – Jennifer Miller, Teacher at Stemmers Run

Stemmers faculty participated in a book study on *Unshakeable: 20 Ways to Enjoy Teaching Every Day*. One hour professional development workshops, delivered by NDMU faculty

