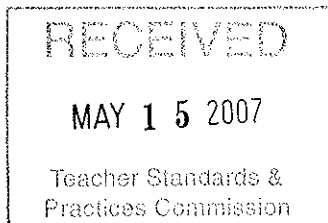




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May 11, 2007

Vickie Chamberlain
Director
TSPC
465 Commercial St. NE,
Salem, OR 97301



Ms. Chamberlain:

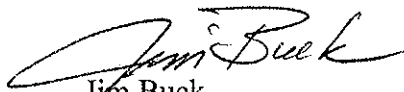
OSPA members have been involved and deeply interested in the issue of student teacher placements and particularly the increasing challenge in finding placements at the secondary level.

OSPA conducted a meeting this school year and collected a survey from districts on what HR leaders believed contributed to increased difficulty in finding placements for student teachers. The responses were varied, but the responsibility for a quality work sample during a rather limited field based experience at one authorization level was viewed as problematic not only on the student teacher but also for the supervising teacher and was factor limiting placements.

While competency based field experience is indeed recommended for each authorization level sought on the license, it would be helpful for the universities and their student teachers to have greater flexibility on work samples and not require a sample at each authorization level.

I am requesting that the Commission seriously consider the proposal from OACTE that provides greater flexibility in where the work samples are completed to reduce the serious placement problem affecting secondary student teachers.

Sincerely,


Jim Buck
Executive Director