

PAC-TE welcomes you and encourages you to:

- Cast your vote for the open seats on PAC-TE's Board of Directors before you leave the conference, if possible.
- 2. Register for the Spring Conference, March 22 today and receive a \$10 discount.

New Opportunities for Equity in Early Childhood Education Across Pennsylvania



We are now Penn West (Pennsylvania Western University)

- California University
- Clarion University
- Edinboro University
- July 1, 2022
- 100+ ECE workforce (non traditional) students impacted
 59 Associate and 20 Bachelor Degree -
- # of TEACH scholars impacted



Student Teaching Pre-Merger

- California University
- Clarion University
- Edinboro University



Potential Barriers



- PDE regulation After looking through the PDE requirement it was established that as long as candidates have a certified ECE teacher in their workplace who can serve as the supervisor or mentor teacherfor the candidate
- CAEP Accreditation- After discussing CAEP requirements with our university's contact, it was established that CAEP's requirements are aligned with PDE. As long as the candidate receives field experience in grades 1-4 with the required hours, they may be placed in student teaching in the workplace.

Funding Considerations

- \$15 million in OCDEL funding for ECE workforce
 - PDO- Dispersed throughout several regions
 - T.E.A.C.H.-From July 1-August 31, 2022, PACCA has received 210 T.E.A.C.H. scholarship applications and 124 were eligible and were awarded scholarships.

Environmental Considerations

- Teaching shortage
- Lower IHE enrollment \$
- State funding increases in PreK Counts
 - requires certified teachers in classrooms
- ECE teacher turnover/poor compensation
 - need to complete student teaching in workplace

Need for Change

 The need for certified teachers is critical. How can we break down barriers and find alternative field and student teaching in our IHE institutions to bring in more qualified teachers?

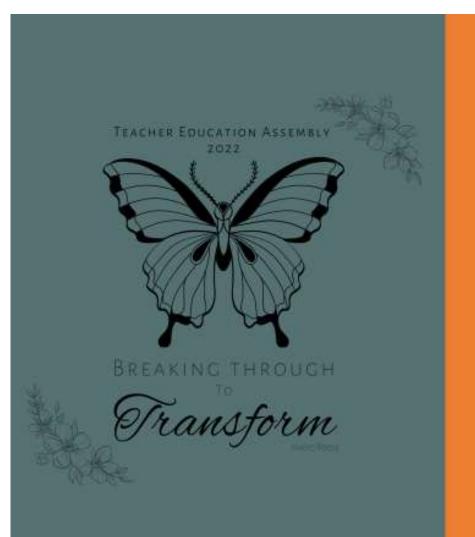


Where we are now

- New T.E.A.C.H. agreement- the T.E.A.C.H. agreement is being prepared for all 3 campuses per the Dean of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at Penn West. This is progress, since until the past two years, no one new what T.E.A.C.H. was!
- New student teaching handbook- Penn West has created a new Student Teacher Handbook. It is written for traditional students. We would like to add options for non-traditional students. We are seeking permission for that.

Where we'd like to go.....for working educators

- Penn West is now working on a model at the Edinboro campus to engage our community partners in field and student teaching:
- Pre-K Counts partners in both Erie and Crawford counties
- McKinley Elementary school, a part of the Erie School District is Penn West Edinboro's Community School under the United Way of Erie County. This could serve as a place for Gr. 1-4 field Experience. There are more school districts that partner in both Erie and Crawford counties.
- Other early childhood programs that have certified teachers employed who can supervise.



PAC-TE and the presenter(s) of this session desire your feedback.

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