
STUDENT-TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

District 181 values the opportunity to partner with student teachers on their path to becoming lifelong learners and impactful educators. During their student teaching experience, cooperating teachers will prioritize the development of the student teacher's core competencies in five key areas: teacher efficacy, collaboration, content expertise, interpersonal skills, and data-driven instruction.

Teacher Efficacy: Demonstrates confidence in their ability to guide students to success, reflecting on how the educator's instructional practice, content knowledge, and formative assessment lead to academic success for students. Identifies the strengths and challenges of students while recognizing how student experiences and foundational skills contribute to their learning profile.

Interpersonal Skills: Creates a learner-centered community where positive student-student, student-teacher, and teacher-teacher relationships are prevalent. Develops attitudes and skills for maintaining a classroom culture that demonstrates empathy and ensures a safe and welcoming environment for students.

Data-Driven: Identifies and utilizes multiple forms of data to monitor and adjust learning experiences. Ensures students utilize precise and timely feedback to inform goal-setting since student learning is at the core of our instructional work.

Content Specialist: Designs and facilitates learning experiences that develop necessary skills for students to demonstrate proficiency in the related content standards. Utilizes technology to create, analyze, and synthesize multimedia to enrich and strengthen student learning.

Collaboration: Actively engages in school, grade-level, content, and district-based teams; sharing experiences, receiving feedback, and continually seeking to build their professional knowledge as an individual as well as part of a team.

District 181 collaborates with pre-approved, accredited colleges and universities to develop high-quality student observation/teaching and internship placements.

OBSERVATION-CLINICAL PRACTICUM HOURS

Observation Request for 25 Hours or Fewer at the Middle School Level

Requests for observation for 25 hours or fewer may be handled directly at each building site. A prospective observer may contact the Assistant Principal with a request to observe for up to 25 hours. The Assistant Principal will pass the request on to the

Building Leadership team to discuss the observation request with the teachers involved and determine the appropriate time frame.

Hinsdale Middle School:

[Rocky May](#)

Clarendon Hills Middle School:

[Erick Jones](#)

Observation Request for 25 Hours or Fewer at the Elementary Level

Requests for observation for 25 hours or fewer may be handled directly at each building site. A prospective observer may contact the Building Principal with a request to observe for up to 15 hours. The Principal will pass the request on to the appropriate Teacher who will discuss the observation request with the teacher involved and determine the appropriate time frame.

Elm Elementary

[Sara Olson](#)

Madison Elementary

[Katie Zulauf](#)

Monroe Elementary

[Erin Eder](#)

Oak Elementary

[Effey Nassis](#)

Prospect Elementary

[Kristin Cummings](#)

The Lane Elementary

[Brandon Todd](#)

Walker Elementary

[Eric Chisausky](#)

Observation Requests for 25+ Hours

We are generally not able to accommodate requests for observation for more than 25 hours. Extended observation hours usually require an additional time commitment from teachers. Since this can impose upon the educational planning time of staff, we may not be able to accommodate most requests for long term observations.

APPLICATION PROCESS FOR STUDENT TEACHING

District 181 offers a comprehensive student teaching program. Here's a clear roadmap to guide you through the application process:

1. **Online Application:** Get started by completing our online application form. This will provide us with your basic information, academic background, and teaching preferences. You will be required to upload your university letter of request, transcripts

(unofficial is sufficient), cover letter, and a resume to be considered. Failure to upload documents will delay the application process. [Click here to apply online.](#)

2. **Interview:** Following a review of applications, qualified candidates will be invited to interview with a principal and district administrator. This is a great opportunity to showcase your passion for teaching and learn more about our program.
3. **Meeting with a potential cooperating teacher:** After the interview, you may be matched with a potential cooperating teacher at a school site. This meeting allows you to get to know each other and discuss expectations for the student teaching experience.

An interview offer doesn't guarantee a student teaching placement. To ensure a suitable fit, administrators consult on placements considering both your requirements and qualifications, along with cooperating teacher availability in your requested placement area. The district's Human Resources Department will notify you and your university by email regarding placement approval or rejection.

Students accepted for a student teacher placement with District 181 must submit the following documents to the Human Resources Department before their placement begins:

1. **Criminal Background Check:** To ensure the safety of our students, all student teachers must pass a criminal background check. A fingerprint background check is completed at the [DuPage County ROE](#).
2. **Physical Statement Form:** To participate in classroom activities, we require a completed physical statement form from a licensed healthcare professional.

We look forward to partnering with you on your path to becoming a successful educator!

Important Reminders for Student Teaching Applicants:

- **Application Deadlines:** Fall student teaching applications (August-December) must be submitted by March 15. Spring student teaching applications (January-June) must be submitted by October 15.
- **School Contact:** To ensure a smooth placement process, please refrain from contacting schools, principals, or teachers directly about student teaching opportunities. You can email agawron@d181.org regarding submitted applications.
- **Communication:** Responding promptly to any emails from the Human Resources Department is crucial. This demonstrates your professionalism and commitment to the application process.
- **Contact Information:** Double-check that your email address and phone number are accurate and up-to-date in your application. This ensures you don't miss any important updates regarding your placement.