



Dear Cooperating Teachers,

On behalf of the staff and faculty in the Education Department at Grand View, I would like to thank you for volunteering to serve as mentors for our student teachers. Student teaching serves as an extraordinary culminating experience at the end of their teacher education program. Throughout their time at Grand View, our students are given opportunities to observe in K-12 classrooms where they plan and teach lessons. However, prior to student teaching, they do not have the experience of teaching all day throughout the week, altering their lessons plans to address student needs, or collecting and analyzing assessment data to make crucial instructional decisions. These are just a few of the opportunities that student teachers are given in their eight-week placements.

Of course, our student teachers are not ready to do this alone. They need to be guided in all of these tasks by master educators like you. As a cooperating teacher, you are not just sharing your classroom. You are sharing the thought processes, philosophy, strategies, reflections, and experiences that define you as a teacher. The information and skills that student teachers learn in your classrooms will help them throughout their careers, but will be especially important during their first year of teaching.

When our student teachers enter your classrooms, we expect them to behave professionally, reflecting their dedication to the profession. They should be mindful that they represent not only Grand View, but also your classroom and school. We will communicate these expectations to our students and know that you will share this messaging with them.

The enclosed material will provide more information for you and your student teacher. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions after your review of this material.

Thank you for your willingness to participate in our students' journey to success as professional educators.

Sincerely,

Leah Cole
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