

# Teacher Preparation News

September 7, 2021

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*If you have news that would be useful to teacher candidates, email [edprep@semo.edu](mailto:edprep@semo.edu) by 12:00 noon on the **Friday** prior to the publication date to have it included in the next*

newsletter. \*\*\*Some newsletter hyperlinks are not compatible with iPad\*\*\* Follow this link for past newsletters <http://semo.edu/education-health/edu-prep/news.html>.

## **Friday, September 10 – Face-to-Face Sikeston District Substitute Teacher Training**

Sikeston R-6 Schools will be hosting a face-to-face Substitute Teacher Training session from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 10 in Scully room 312. Substitute teaching is a great opportunity to gain experience and to have school personnel to get to know you. It will increase your teaching skills and improve your resume. This training will enable participants to substitute teach at Sikeston R-6 Schools. A valid substitute certificate is needed in order to sub. If you do not have a sub certificate, please contact Danyell Pride at [dpride@spsr6.org](mailto:dpride@spsr6.org) or (573) 472-2581.

## **Tuesday, September 14: First SMSTA Meeting**

The first SMSTA (Student Missouri State Teachers Association) meeting will be MANDATORY for all new people interested in joining this semester. The meeting will be held in person Tuesday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m. in Dempster Hall Room 125. The guest speaker will be SMSTA Coordinator Krista Meyer, who will speak about the benefits of membership and why you should join SMSTA!

## **Meet Dr. Shonta Smith – the New Elementary, Early, and Special Education Department Chair!**

We are so excited to have Dr. Shonta Smith as the new Department Chair of Elementary, Early, and Special Education! Dr. Smith replaces Dr. Julie Ray who recently retired. Smith came to Southeast in 2009 and has served most recently as a professor of elementary education and UI100 first-year experience coordinator. She holds a doctoral degree in educational leadership from St. Louis University; a Master of Education in counseling from the University of Missouri-St. Louis; and a Bachelor of Science in education from Harris Stowe State University. Dr. Smith's office is in the Scully Building, Room 314; her email is [ssmith@semo.edu](mailto:ssmith@semo.edu).

## **Courtesy Placements**

In general, all students will be expected to do student teaching in Southeast Missouri or sites within reasonable driving distance for university supervisors. However, in hardship situations, candidates may be considered for an out-of-region placement. Students who wish to be considered for placement outside the area must fill out a request form provided by the Field Experiences Office in Scully 304 within two (2) weeks of the beginning of the semester immediately preceding the student teaching semester.

Students will be considered for teaching outside the university service area if:

1. The candidate is married before the student teaching semester begins and the spouse is required to live outside the area for employment, or military commitment.
2. A hardship exists due to a serious, long-term illness of a member of the immediate family which would require the candidate to relocate immediately.
3. Another documented hardship exists as determined by the Director of Field Experiences and the Field Experience Committee

The Director of Field Experiences and the Field Experience Committee will determine if a candidate meets the requirements for student teaching outside the region. Exceptions or appeals can be made to a committee made up of the Associate Dean, Director of Field Experiences, and the Chairs of the Department of Leadership, Middle, and Secondary Education and the Department of Elementary, Early, and Special Education. Students must be able to assure that the need is valid and that all requirements are met. The committee will not rule on other issues of placement not covered under those regulations.

Approved students must pay a non-refundable fee that will vary depending on the placement to cover costs related to the additional time related to coordinating out-of-area placements. [Courtesy Placement Form](#)

## **Edgy Educators Podcast Episode 1!**

Welcome to the Edgy Educator Podcast. Student hosts Caleb Austin, Hunter Bailey, Jake Barton, William Ducote, Rachel Gregson, Emily Hopper, and Rachel Richardson are your podcast production and interview team. The Edgy Educators are covering educator news, stories from around campus, and hosting special guests. Check us out on the on the Pre-Service Teacher Canvas page. Listen here:

[Canvas Link: Edgy Educators Podcast Episode 1](#)

or

Microsoft SharePoint Link:  [Edgy Educators Episode 1](#)

Want to join our production and/or host team or have a suggestion? Contact one of the Edgy Educators or Dr. Robin L. Smith at [rsmith@semo.edu](mailto:rsmith@semo.edu).

## **New September EDvolution Newsletter**

You can find the September EDvolution Newsletter [here](#).

## **Office of Field Experiences Masking Policy**

Students in pre-student teaching field experience courses must follow the guidelines for [Protect the Nest](#). Masking is required in these field experiences as per university policy.

## Technology Requirements for Education Majors

Education majors must have a mobile device for their course work, but may choose to use any device, such as a laptop, and not exclusively iPads. Education majors are required to have a device in class when they take their first pre-education course, such as ED 280 Introduction to Education as a Profession. Cell phones are not an acceptable device. The device must meet specifications needed for education courses, and the details of these specifications can be found on the EDvolution Center website at this [link](#).

## Pearson Testing Voucher Update

The few Pearson Testing Vouchers that we previously received have already been given out to students. We hope to receive some more vouchers in September. Any new information will be posted in upcoming newsletters this fall.

## Are you Looking for a Place to Zoom?

If you are looking for space to Zoom while in Scully (or anywhere on the main campus), check out the link below. For the private spaces in The EDvolution Center, we highly recommend making a reservation by emailing [edvolution@semo.edu](mailto:edvolution@semo.edu). The second link is for Zoom spaces on regional campuses.

[Zoom Spaces for Students on Main Campus](#)

[Zoom Spaces for Students on Regional Campuses](#)

## Background Checks

If you are planning to do field work in PreK-12 school buildings during the fall 2021 semester, you are required to have an up-to-date fingerprint background check on file with the Teacher Preparation Program. Field work courses include CE364, CE480, ED280, EL314, EL350, EL430, EL480, EX309, EX480, ME222, ME270, SE355, SE380, SE465, and any other course that requires field work in a school. (If you previously obtained a background check for the Southeast Missouri State University Teacher Preparation Program after September 2018, it has not expired.) If you are unsure if you have a background check on file with Teacher Preparation Program, you can email the Candidate Status and Certification Officer at [cscs@semo.edu](mailto:cscs@semo.edu) to check on your background check status. To obtain a new background check, you must go to the following website: <https://semo.edu/education-health/edu-prep/backgroundcheck.html> and follow the directions provided.

## MoCA/MoGEA Study Guides Available on Canvas

MoCA/MoGEA Study guides are available on Canvas. At this point, you should have received an invitation to a Canvas Course titled Pre-Service Teacher Resources, which will

house study guides and other resources related to educator preparation. If you didn't receive an invitation and would like one, please email [edprep@semo.edu](mailto:edprep@semo.edu).

## **Do you have Items to Share on Facebook Related to Educator Prep?**

There is lots of good information on our [Ed Prep Facebook page](#). Please share and like this page! If you have any items to post, please submit them to [edprep@semo.edu](mailto:edprep@semo.edu)!

## **Employment Openings**

When the Office of Educator Preparation receives notice of employment openings, those are listed here: <http://semo.edu/education-health/jobs/index.html>. New full-time positions are now posted at [REDHAWKjobs.com](http://REDHAWKjobs.com).