

Fall 2013

Dear Mentor-Teacher:

Thank you for hosting one of my future teachers from my **Children's Literature** course in your classroom this semester. The purpose of the placement with you is to help my student make connections between the theory learned in my college class and "real world" practice of your classroom related to literacy (with special focus on literature in the reading and general curriculum).

With this letter you should receive the following from my student:

- □ The **pamphlet** entitled "Service Learning Information for Mentor-Teachers" which outlines expectations for my student and suggestions for your interaction with him or her
- A <u>copy</u> of the "Confirmation of Service" and "Conduct Agreement" forms to confirm the placement and to be signed by you. This form serves as the "contract" between you and my student. Please request a copy once it has been signed and hold students accountable for the expectations.

In order to meet course goals, it is my hope that my student is able to engage in some combination of the following activities with you and your class:

- <u>Direct interaction with children/students</u> as is appropriate in your classroom (i.e. experience with reading and literature: performing book talks and read-alouds, working with reading groups, assisting with reading activities, literature units, etc.)
- <u>Discussion with you</u> about literature and reading curriculum, the role of language arts in learning, Arizona and Common Core Standards for Reading, reading assessment, and creation of a literature-rich environment
- **Delivery of a reading inventory to children/students** in your class to get a "feel" for what are reading habits, experiences, and preferences for your grade level.
- Delivery of two literature "lessons" that include a read-aloud + discussion + readerresponse activity to your class scheduled and planned with your assistance

You have opportunity to positively influence my early pre-service teachers, so any stories from your experience, suggestions, advice, strategies you can share so that my student has concrete examples to bring back to class discussion are welcome.

CGCC is committed to the continued success of its field experience program for future teachers. In the Teacher Education Program, our success and that of our students results from your willingness to host and mentor them. If you have any concerns about my student or find s/he is not meeting your expectations or the expectations of this experience, **do not hesitate to call (480-732-7124) or email me (sharon.fagan@cgcmail.maricopa.edu)**. I recognize that your participation as a mentor-teacher is itself a professional service and I am grateful that you are serving as a role model for mentor a new generation of educators.

Sincerely,

Sharon Fagan

Sharon Fagan, Faculty and Coordinator Teacher Education Program