**VSBPE**

**Date: March 9, 2022**

**Item:** **Saint Michael’s College Shortened Student Teaching Contingency Plan**

**ITEM:** Shall the VSBPE accept St. Michael’s contingency plan for shortened student teaching?

**AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**The Office does not recommend the VSBPE accept St. Michael’s contingency plan for shortened student teaching**

**BACKGROUND:**

After two separate rounds of plans for shortened student teaching due to Covid, the Board and the Agency recommended to the EPPs that they submit a plan that would cover ongoing Covid outbreaks, as well as any other valid reasons that a student would not be able to complete the full required thirteen weeks of student teaching. The Agency drafted a sample plan, which the Board approved. This sample plan was shared with all EPPs; it was their choice to submit that or some version of it for approval. Most of the EPPs which have submitted their plans included the same number of required weeks (10) as the sample plan, and so we have not brought those plans to the Board for approval, as they followed the already-approved sample plan. St. Michael has submitted a contingency plan which contains only seven weeks of student teaching. As this differs from the approved plan, we would like the Board to make the determination on approval.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:**

Saint Michael’s College Student Teaching Policy for Teaching Less than the Required 13 Weeks

1. The education department chair and the licensing coordinator will review the reason for the inability to complete the required 13 weeks of student teaching. Both must agree that the reason is valid. Acceptable reasons may include illness, family emergency, or circumstances outside the control of the individual.

1. At least seven of the required 13 weeks have been completed and the required evidence for the VLP part II have been completed.

1. The mentor/cooperating teacher and the supervisor sign a form attesting that the candidate has fulfilled all the requirements of student teaching and is ready to assume responsibility for their own classroom.

1. Saint Michael’s College will keep a record of recommended candidates who did not complete the full 13 weeks and track this data in their follow-up surveys of recommended candidates. This data will be reported as part of the evidence presented in ongoing ROPA reviews.

Sample Contingency Plan:

1. A panel of three faculty members will review the reason for the invoking of the policy to determine if it is unexpected and unavoidable leading to an inability to complete the required 13 weeks of student teaching. At least two of the three panelists must agree that the reason is valid.
2. At least ten of the required 13 weeks have been completed. The ten weeks can be non-consecutive so long as they occur during the same school year with the same cohort of students.
3. The mentor/cooperating teacher and the university supervisor sign a form attesting that the candidate has fulfilled all the requirements of student teaching and is ready to assume responsibility for his/her own classroom.
4. EPPs will keep a record of recommended candidates who did not complete the full 13 weeks and track this data in their follow-up surveys of recommended candidates and employers who hire them. This data will be reported to the VSBPE every three years and be part of the evidence presented in ongoing ROPA reviews.