**VSBPE**

**Date: Nov. 16, 2021**

**Item:** **Castleton Request for Out-of-State Student Teaching Placement Approval**

**ITEM:** Shall the VSBPE approve Castleton’s request for out-of-state student teaching placement approval for one candidate?

**AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**That the VSBPE approve of Castleton’s request to place one student teacher out-of-state, with the condition that Castleton conducts a follow-up survey of the candidate, the supervisor, and the mentor teacher within three months after the conclusion of the internship and keeps records of the information collected as part of their ROPA evidence.**

**BACKGROUND:** The Office received a letter from Castleton requesting permission from the Board for one candidate to fulfill their student teaching requirement in New York State. Per VSBPE Policy N10, copied below, an approved policy on out-of-state placements is required for any approved EPP that wants to place a student teacher out-of-state. Per email correspondence between the ROPA Coordinator and Castleton, Castleton will be submitting a policy for long-term approval, but currently has an emergency situation that they need to address right away allowing this candidate can student teach next semester.

**RATIONALE:** Per the request letter from Castleton, there are circumstances out of their control which are making it difficult or impossible to find a mentor teacher in their vicinity. Castleton is closer geographically to New York than much of the rest of Vermont. Unfortunately, New York is one of the three states with which Vermont does not have reciprocity; however, the [New York State Teaching Standards](http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/teachingstandards9122011.pdf) do seem to align with the Vermont Core Teaching Standards.

**POLICY N10**

**Policy on Student Teacher Placement with A Non-Vermont Licensed Cooperating Teacher**

In order to place student teachers with non-Vermont licensed cooperating teachers, educator preparation programs must have a written policy, approved by the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators (VSBPE), for these placements. This policy will be reviewed as part of the ROPA process.

Each educator preparation program will submit policies and procedures ensuring the quality of these placements consistent with Rules Governing the Licensing of Educators and the Preparation of Educational Professionals including the Core Teaching and Leadership Standards for Vermont Educators as well as any additional requirements for the endorsement area(s). Data concerning these placements will be maintained by each program and included in the Institutional Portfolio for review. Alternate routes to licensure are also subject to this policy.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:** Letter from Castleton

To: Ellen Cairns

Fr: Ric Reardon, Castleton University Licensure Officer

Re: Student teaching placement

Ellen- we have a dire situation here at Castleton with placing student teachers in Vermont PK-12 music environments for the coming spring semester. There has been a significant amount of turnover in our local schools, which is good for our graduates but not for us in terms of placements. We lost 3 local teachers we normally partner with for placements, another is on maternity leave, and one is returning from maternity leave in late January. One student is willing and able to student teach in NY (she lives there). We request permission from the Vermont Standards Board to place that student in a NY school. We will create a comprehensive support model for her that will include:

1. A meeting with the school’s principal to select a seasoned, experienced and willing mentor teacher
2. A follow-up meeting with that mentor to provide all appropriate resources (student teaching handbook, assessments, student teaching expectations, etc.
3. The establishment of a set schedule of face-to-face and remote observations on a weekly basis (not every 10 days). Please allow us to make this placement as we are concerned that the student may need to take the semester off and return in the fall of 2022 when a placement may be available.

Thank You

Ric Reardon, Ph.D.

Castleton University