WHY TEACHER LEADERSHIP IN OHIO?

As mandated by the Ohio Legislature’s House Bill 1, the facilitation of 21st century learning is a vitally important public educational concern. Ohio is one of the first states in the United States to formally support teacher leadership. Acquiring a teacher leader endorsement is a key step in securing Ohio’s new “Lead Professional Educator” license.

This endorsement is based on Ohio’s Teacher Leader (OTL) Standards. The OTL standards promote a comprehensive set of teacher leader competencies including:

1) Assisting administrative leadership in developing and supporting a shared educational vision for 21st century learning,
2) Managing the conflicts and tensions that accompany 21st century educational reform,
3) Facilitating continuous adult learning through collaborative inquiry,
4) Functioning as peer coaches and mentors with a wide range of educational colleagues.

TLEP COORDINATORS

Dr. James G. Henderson
Professor of Curriculum Studies
jhenders@kent.edu
Phone: (330) 672-0631

Dr. Rosemary Gornik
Assistant Professor in Educational Administration
rgornik@kent.edu
Phone: (330) 672-2012

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Nancy Miller
Academic Program Director
Office of Graduate Students Services
nmiller1@kent.edu
Phone: (330) 672-0557

For additional information on KSU’s TLEP’s definition of teacher leadership as well as program details, please review the two websites below:

The College of Education, Health, and Human Services’ (EHHS) Curriculum Leadership Institute: http://ehhs.kent.edu/cli

EHHS’s Professional Development and Outreach: http://www.kent.edu/ehhs/pd/teacher-leadership-endorsement.cfm
ABOUT KENT STATE’S TEACHER LEADER ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

Kent State University’s Teacher Leader Endorsement Program (TLEP) is one of the first such programs to be approved by the State of Ohio. The goal of the program is to prepare visionary, collaborative educational leaders with a strong commitment to professional integrity. To achieve this goal, the program introduces experienced teachers to lead-learning study that advances sophisticated curriculum and teaching problem-solving.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NEW LEAD PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSE

The Lead Professional Educator License is the final step in Ohio’s new “4 Tiered Licensure Structure.” Teachers who attain National Board Certification can apply to the State of Ohio for this final license. All other teachers must fulfill the following four requirements:

- Attain a master’s degree or a higher degree from an accredited institution.
- Complete nine years under a standard teaching license.
- Complete a Master Teacher Portfolio.
- Earn a Teacher Leader Endorsement.

ADDING THE TEACHER LEADER ENDORSEMENT TO A TEACHING LICENSE

Following a candidate’s successful completion of an approved TLEP, the Teacher Leader Endorsement can be added to a professional teaching license or a professional or permanent teaching certificate.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR KSU’s TLEP

In order to apply for KSU’s TLEP, candidates must meet the following entrance requirements:

- Current Ohio educator license.
- Completion of a master’s degree.
- Four years of successful teaching experience.

REQUIRED COURSES IN KSU’S TLEP

- CI 67002 or 77002 Curriculum Leadership
- EDAD 66751 or 76751 Instructional Leadership for Teacher Leaders
- EDAD 66750 or 76750 Coaching and Mentoring for Teacher Leaders
- CI 67092 or 77092 Advanced Practicum and Internship

Karen Tollafield, who is an experienced teacher leader in Kent State University’s National Writing Project, composed a brief poetic response to the question on the brochure’s front page,

You are invited on a journey
To reflect and discover,
To make sure the aim is true - finding intensions to uncover,
To craft the right experiences - authentic and engaging,
To be inspired and deliberate in this pursuit we are waging.

KSU’s TLEP has been approved by the State of Ohio with the understanding that the program will be implemented in accordance with its specific design. Therefore, the program must be completed in its entirety. Course transfers or substitutions cannot be accepted.