

## **Step # 6**

### Planning Commentary

Fall 2014

### **Middle Childhood Education**

In writing this planning commentary, please refer to your completed lesson plan(s) and your subject specific edTPA handbook. Please use this format for responding to the prompts. Do not delete the prompts.

#### **1. Central Focus**

- a. Describe the central focus and the purpose for the content you will teach in this learning segment.
- b. Please refer to your subject specific edTPA handbook for this prompt.
- c. Please refer to your subject specific edTPA handbook for this prompt.
- d. If required by your subject area, please refer to your subject specific edTPA handbook for this prompt.
- e. If required by your subject area, please refer to your subject specific edTPA handbook for this prompt.

#### **2. Knowledge of Students to Inform Teaching**

This section is different than the Classroom Information Survey. In this section you are to describe what you know about your students relative to the central focus of the learning segment. Make sure that you consider the students with 504 plans and IEPs. In addition, consider English language learners, struggling readers, underperforming and/ or gifted students.

- a. *Prior academic skills and prerequisite skills related to the central focus.* List evidence of what students know, what they can do, and what they are still learning to do.
- b. List what you know about your students' everyday experiences, cultural backgrounds and practices, and interests relative to the central focus of the learning segment.
- c. As it relates to your central focus, what do you know about your student's cognitive, physical, and social and emotional development?

#### **3. Supporting Students' Specific Subject Learning**

In responding to this prompt, please refer to your instructional materials and lesson plan(s). In addition you are required to use principles from research and/or theory to support your explanations.

- a. Make the case that your choice or adaptation of learning tasks and materials was aligned with your statements in sections 2 a and b.
- b. Describe and defend why your instructional strategies and planned supports are appropriate for the whole class, individuals, and/ or groups of students with specific learning needs.
- c. Respond to the subject specific prompt in your edTPA manual.

d. Respond to the subject specific prompt in your edTPA manual.

**4. Supporting Specific Subject Development Through Language.**

a. *Language Function.* Identify one language function vital for students within your central focus. Refer to your specific edTPA manual for suggestions.

b. List and describe a key learning task from your plans that provides students with opportunities to practice using the language function identified above. Identify the lesson (lesson day or number) in which the learning task occurs.

c. *Additional Language Demands.* Considering the language function and learning task identified above, describe the associated language demands (written or oral) listed in your subject specific edTPA manual.

**5. Monitoring Student Learning.** In responding to these prompts, refer to the formative and/or summative assessments within the lesson. Respond to the subject specific prompts in your edTPA manual for prompt s 5 a and b.