

YORK UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM FACILITATOR



York University Faculty of Education strives to provide passionate, creative people with an inspiring environment in which they can cultivate their interests, gain the tools they need to motivate students and engage communities, actively contribute to the evolution of education, and become powerful catalysts for change. Our B.Ed. is infused with strong principles such as equity, diversity, collaboration, interdisciplinarity, sustainability and social justice. Together with our partners in local schools, we undertake the complex and challenging role of providing the teachers of tomorrow with a solid foundation that will sustain them and inspire them as they continue learning throughout their careers in education.

The Practicum Facilitator's role is to collaborate with Mentor Teachers (MT), Site Coordinators (SC) and Administrators to facilitate the success of Teacher Candidates (TC) in the practicum placement by

- Developing and enhancing positive relationships and open lines of communication between the Faculty of Education and local school communities;
- Developing and enhancing York Faculty of Education cohorts in schools to support strong professional mentoring relationships between Teacher Candidates and their Mentor Teachers;
- Supporting school-based professional learning communities that include Teacher Candidate and Mentor Teacher collaboration;
- Hosting regular practicum meetings for Teacher Candidates as a collaborative project between School and Faculty, allowing Teacher Candidates and interested school staff to engage in professional learning conversations;
- Introducing or expanding upon understandings about the Faculty of Education's Bachelor of Education to clarify the learning outcomes and exit requirements for Teacher Candidates relating to practicum activities such as active engagement, co-teaching, independent teaching and participation in the school community;
- Supporting TCs, MTs and SCs to address issues or concerns, facilitate early resolution and, if required, develop a detailed action plan;
- Supporting the development of TCs' understandings of current key issues in education as they relate to the practicum experience;
- Sharing the learning that is happening in the Faculty with Site Coordinators and Mentor Teachers; and
- Updating the School on Faculty research, opportunities, events and projects that might support School objectives.

Finally, based on the recommendations of the Mentor Teacher and the results of practicum-related portfolio documentation, it is the responsibility of the Practicum Facilitator to assign a passing or failing grade to the Teacher Candidate.

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