

## Policy Statement Partnership for Music Teacher Excellence

### *Student Teaching as a Full-Time Endeavor*

The student teaching experience fulfills many purposes, providing opportunities for the student to:

1. Make the transition from the role of a student to that of a professional music educator
2. Become aware of the role and responsibility of the professional music educator as a member of a school and a community

In addition, the student teacher's responsibilities in planning lessons and rehearsals, locating and constructing teaching materials, reflecting and reporting on daily experiences, and participating in after-school and extra-curricular activities are an expected part of a professional music teacher's duties. Their magnitude and intensity demand the student teacher's full-time attention and energies.

As we believe that student teaching is a full-time endeavor, the student's academic and personal life shall not interfere with assigned duties as a student teacher.

It is therefore unacceptable for a student to participate in any other university-related activity during the student teaching semester. **Student teachers may not:**

- (1) register for correspondence and independent study courses
- (2) have incomplete courses from prior semesters
- (3) participate in ensembles and studio classes whether for credit or non-credit
- (4) register for coursework at other institutions
- (5) continue teaching assistantships
- (6) seek or continue employment outside the area of music education

Employment and personal activities that significantly impinge on a student's time are strongly discouraged during the student teaching semester.

Petitions requesting variance from this policy will be considered in circumstances where the activity will clearly be in the student's best interest and will not interfere with the student's ability to handle all responsibilities relative to their student teaching assignments. The petition must be submitted by the student to the Music Education Faculty (in writing via the adviser) as early as possible, preferably at least six weeks prior to the beginning of the student teaching semester, and no later than the **first day** of the student teaching semester. Students found to be in violation of this policy at any time during the semester may be subject to penalty, and that penalty might involve a lowered grade or, depending on the severity of the infraction, could result in being **withdrawn** from the student teaching assignment.