

The Professional Team

Student teaching involves a community of practice. Members of this community include the Teacher Candidate, University Supervisor, the Cooperating Teacher, the Academic Consultant, the Principal and other support school personnel. In addition, Appalachian State University Faculty, Assistant Dean and program specialists in the Office of Field Experiences lend support.

- ❖ The Teacher Candidate is the student enrolled in CI/SPE 4900.
- ❖ The Office of Field Experiences coordinates and facilitates all aspects of student teaching.
- ❖ University Supervisors work with the Teacher Candidate, Cooperating Teacher, and the Local Education Agency (LEA) to provide appropriate teaching/learning situations. All Teacher Candidates have a University Supervisor.
- ❖ The Cooperating Teacher is the person directly involved with the Teacher Candidate on a daily basis. His/her function is to serve as a mentor who guides the Teacher Candidate's development as a practicing teacher.
- ❖ Academic Consultants are part of the secondary and P-12 program teams. These consultants work with University Supervisors to provide content related expertise to the student teaching experience.
- ❖ The Principal serves as the leader for the school and has the responsibility of verifying that the Teacher Candidate is ready to begin the first year of teaching. One of the Principal's obligations is to support the Teacher Candidate in the same way that he/she would a teacher within the school.

Other teachers, school secretaries, school staff members, guidance counselors, school system personnel, parents and pupils can provide valuable assistance throughout student teaching.