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ITL 604- Dr. Mbuva
Field Experience

ITL 604 Reflection

The field experience portion of this course focused on getting to your students to support all students through research, reflection, and collaboration. Now, take a moment to reflect on this process and how it benefits students. Use your Collaborative Meeting notes as you reflect. You will submit this assignment in Week 3, Assignment 3C. Complete this reflection template with your partner but each of you will submit your own copy.

How did the information in the SimSchool Observation report help you better understand your students, the class, or school context?	What I found from this assignment, in conjunction with the "focus student" assignment, is getting to know each student can be a very deep "rabbit's hole" to climb into. For the collaboration assignment, we used Simschool students to do our planning and assessments, but throughout I kept envisioning students in my classes. The associations didn't necessarily remind me of one particular student, but highlighted characteristics of many different students, an element here or an element there. When I combined the before mentioned two assignments in terms of self-evaluation, I found myself assessing my own knowledge of each student, what did I really know? I am faced with the task of getting to know over 200 students that I teach every day, what can I do understand them better? I want to create a mental picture of what the students are as unique individuals in color, not black and white. I am not sure if this was the intended outcome of the work, but I know that I must find strategies that work for me to create a higher level of understanding of each student. I think that I can address this through better preparation habits by which I examine more information I have available to me. I think that I may find this to be very beneficial in: getting to know my students, addressing a variety of learning styles, enhance the level of accommodations I offer in my classroom environment.
What did you learn from the	I think that the "highlight" of the collaboration project was seeing the process from a different perspective. One advantage the classes I

Collaborative Meeting process (after discussing your experiences using SimSchool)?	have been part of at N.U. is the variety of people from different backgrounds. In this class, and in my group, there were students whose focus in Special Ed, multiple subject grammar school, or, like myself, single subject 9-12. I think that we are carry a common characteristic, and that is be "great teachers" but we all have our own "lane" of sorts that we drive in. This group project allowed me to look at students, or classroom through different lenses. I realized, that we are fighting the same fights but the strategies we use are different. As teachers, I think that we are shaped by the students we work with and our prospective are shifted to better meet the demands of the class. This group projected assisted me by forcing me to look at my students in a different light, and I think that it will have a long -term effect
How would you use the Collaborative Meeting process when you become a credentialed educator?	Getting through the credentialing process has many potential pitfalls and areas in which one will need guidance. So far on my journey to becoming fully credentialed has been eventful and certainly a learning process. The person I have spent the most time discussing the subject has been the Human Resources Director in my district. She guides me with paperwork that is annually submitted to CTC and our County Office of Education. In addition to the district contacts, I now have the credentialing department at N.U. you as well. During my first class I submitted all the documentation that they need to matriculate into the "intern" program. As far documents I need to get them a copy of a transcript with my U.S. government course I took college, which is needed or so I am told.
How did the collaboration make you feel?	Collaboration is a good thing. Getting the opportunity to hear different opinions and unique perspective is always a good thing. Some times we can get caught up in our own "loop" of life and lose perspective, get in a "rut" so to speak, if you do not embrace outside voices. To answer the question, "how did it make me feel", I would say that I felt like it was another opportunity to open my mind and scope of thought on work with students with 504 plans and IEPs.

What do you want to know more about (in SimSchool, your role as a gen. ed. Teacher, or your role as a Special Ed. Teacher)?	I think I could improve my classes by providing more effective accommodations for students with 504. I read the 504 plans provided by the school, and I follow the recommendations but I would like those students to get the sense that we are doing more than bare minimum in providing accommodations. For example, a student needs space to for extended time on a test or assignment. Currently, I let students use my office of an attached storage area off my classroom and neither are “nice”, they are just a “space”. Next year my goal is to improve this situation for the students. This summer I will research some cost -effective ways to improve the area I have for extended time, independent study, or make up work.