ALONG THE PATHWAY

March 2024 - Issue #10

MONTHLY UPDATE

As we welcome the month of March, we celebrate Women's History Month, which is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the contributions that women have made throughout history. The Teacher Pathway program is proud to celebrate all of the women in our program who have made a commitment to the teaching profession. As we honor these inspiring women, we remind ourselves of the words of Diane Mariechild, *"A woman is the full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform."*

Additionally, this month marks Disabilities Awareness Month 2.0. The Teacher Pathway Team is thrilled to celebrate our mentees who have found a passion in Special Education and will be pursuing licensure to provide quality education to Nevada's students. We believe that their education will be enriched by the educational services they will soon provide. We also remind everyone about the Nevada Governor's Council of Developmental Disabilities Lunch and Learn Series, which provides an opportunity to learn more about the services that are available for students with disabilities in Nevada. Lastly, March is National Reading Month, and in addition to Nevada Reading Week, there is an abundance of opportunities throughout the state for students, educators, and families to "spread the love of reading together!" We leave you with a quote from Malala Yousafzai, *"The content of a book holds the power of education, and it is with this power that we can shape our future and change lives."*

Teacher Pathway participants focusing on Elementary:
71.8%

Teacher Pathway participants focusing on SPED:
24.8%

Teacher Pathway participants who are undecided:
3.4%

* 1st semester of the 2023-24 school year

Sign up to be featured in our Mentee/Mentor Spotlight!

We want to spotlight YOU! All of our mentees and mentors have inspiring stories to share about their path to the teaching profession and their progress through the Teacher Pathway program. Every month, we will feature one participant in our Spotlight section. All you need to do is answer a few questions, provide a photo, and we'll do the rest!

Share your interest in being featured by emailing teacher.pathway@thepef.org.

Path to PPP

Participants that identify as women

85.9% of Mentees

71.4% of Mentors

WHY ACKNOWLEDGING EDUCATORS FOR WHO THEY ARE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

In today's increasingly diverse and complex educational landscape, acknowledging educators for who they are has become more important than ever. With 62.4% of current mentees and 50% of current mentors identifying as coming from diverse backgrounds, it is essential to recognize and appreciate the varied experiences and perspectives that each educator brings to the table. Common barriers to entry, such as funding for higher education, familial obligations, work-life balance, and language barriers, have historically prevented or delayed many aspiring teachers from obtaining licensure. By recognizing who Nevada's educators are as individuals first, we can provide the specific support they need to ensure they can successfully navigate the Teacher Pathway.

Inspired by the Director of Photography for The New York Times, Kathy Ryan, educator Dan Tricarico launched a project that allowed him to capture his peers through a new lens by capturing these educators' individuality in a picture. According to Tricarico, "Teachers have more nuances and are more complex than the professional, straightforward personas we tend to project in the classroom, and it was exciting to showcase that. I was able to capture photographs of our staff being thoughtful, playful, serious, joyous, pensive, proud, confident, and exhibiting a host of other expressions and emotions that display them as the actual human beings that they are." Acknowledging educators for who they are as people, not just as professionals, creates a more supportive and inclusive learning environment. It encourages educators to bring their whole selves to the classroom, which can ultimately lead to better outcomes for students. We invite you to learn more about Dan's project and accept his challenge to do the same in your learning environments.

PEF Teacher PATHWAY

Teacher Pathway *recruits, supports, and retains diverse, qualified individuals committed to a teaching career in CCSD. This "grow your own" teacher training program helps current paraprofessionals become licensed teachers to address Clark County's chronic teacher shortage.*

The journey of Teacher Pathway Mentor Wendy Weeks in education is an inspiring one. Despite her initial goal to become a lawyer, Wendy's passion for teaching led her to become a dedicated educator and mentor. Her experiences with several female educators who inspired her have shaped her approach to teaching and mentoring. Wendy believes that educators play a crucial role in a student's development and her commitment to supporting future educators through the Teacher Pathway program is a testament to her dedication to the profession. Her path from a new educator to now a mentor to Nevada's future educators is a testament to her dedication to the profession and a reminder of the importance of mentorship and support in achieving one's goals. Wendy's belief that being an educator is rewarding and makes a significant difference in children's lives is an inspiration to all those who seek to make a positive impact in the world.

Read more of Wendy's story on our website.

REBEL START ACADEMY CORNER

We are thrilled to celebrate your participation in UNLV's Rebel Start Academy. RSA offers specially designed courses focusing on the needs of non-traditional students. It's an ideal program for those who wish to pursue a career in teaching and successfully apply for UNLV's Paraprofessional Pathway Project.

We remind all RSA participants that their tuition and fees are covered by the program and that they will be assigned an Academic Advisor by UNLV. Please feel free to contact RSA@unlv.edu if you have any questions. We wish all RSA participants the best for their academic journey.

MENTORING RESOURCES

- Did you know that the Discovery Children's Museum will be holding events to celebrate both Women's History Month and National Reading Month?
- Celebrate the magic of reading by volunteering for Nevada's youth with Spread the Word
- Governor Lombardo's Council on Developmental Disabilities will be hosting a free Lunch and Learn series dedicated to a variety of services, support, and professional development related to various disability topics
- The Teacher Pathway Team encourages you to review the updated Praxis preparation materials from Study.com. Visit our Chronus Announcements for details on how to access them.
- Don't forget to submit your Praxis Reimbursement request as soon as you register for your next Praxis exam!
- Join Grant and Ashlie for Office Hours Every Monday from 3:30 - 4:30 PM.

TEACHER PATHWAY TALES: NEVADA'S FUTURE EDUCATORS SPEAK

"*Thank you for all your help up to this point! I wish I could keep my mentor to get me through the rest of my career. My mentor Tonyi has been great :) I look forward to getting the help afterward like Grant promises I will after PPP is completed. I need the Praxis help especially. A mentor would be awesome too! Thanks again for everything see you all in a year!*"

- Future Educator Cara Meagher

"The Teacher Pathway Team does whatever they can to make this process simple, explain everything in detail, and answer any questions we may have."

- Future Educator Michael Jones

PEF Public Education FOUNDATION

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