November 2024 - Issue #14

ON THE FastTrack

MONTHLY UPDATE

As we enter November, we take a moment to honor and celebrate Veterans Day, a time dedicated to recognizing the sacrifices made by those who have served our country. The Teacher FastTrack Team believes there's no better way to commemorate this occasion than by shining a light on the veterans in our program, especially our remarkable mentee, Francis Hawley.

We are also excited to highlight our collaboration with Dr. George Ann Rice and her organization, Patriots to Education. This partnership is instrumental in supporting local veterans who have chosen to continue serving their communities as educators. Together, we are committed to making a positive impact in the lives of those transitioning into this vital role.

This month, our participants will be honing two essential skill sets that are critical for effective teaching: building relationships and classroom management. They will have the opportunity to observe their future peers in action, gaining invaluable insights to help them succeed in their own classrooms.

Thank you for being a part of our community as we celebrate those who have served and support our future educators!

97% of mentees are extremely satisfied/satisfied with their mentor

89% of mentees are extremely satisfied/satisfied with the TFT team

92% of mentors are extremely satisfied/satisfied with their mentee connections

100% of mentors are extremely satisfied/satisfied with the TFT team

*this data was collected from a survey requesting feedback based on the initial 30 days of participation for the current school year

We salute our Veteran Participants

Doris Jones
Francis Hawley
Dr. Jeffery Hinton
Trashari Holmes
Tamara Hudson
Allen Palmer
Eleazer Rone
Leondrus Wright

Path to PPP

How are our Mentees Currently Serving?

Observation Opportunities

This academic year, our mentees have an inspiring opportunity to observe licensed teachers focusing on Classroom Management and Building Relationships. During Quarters 3 and 4, they'll gain invaluable insights into how experienced educators create engaging and supportive atmospheres.

Mentees will witness key elements that drive successful instruction and student achievement, including classroom environment, time management, and student engagement. These observations will deepen their understanding of effective teaching strategies.

In November, mentees will meet with their mentors to reflect on their experiences and discuss how to implement what they've learned as they continue to grow in their education careers. We look forward to seeing their empowerment through this enriching experience.

PEF Teacher FastTrack

Teacher FastTrack *addresses the teacher shortage crisis by identifying school employees who dream of becoming licensed teachers and preparing them for a fast-track preparation program at UNLV. We also mentor hundreds of new teachers through the first three years in their own classrooms.*

Celebrating Veterans in Education: Tamara Hudson

In November, we celebrate veterans in education, including Tamara Hudson, a Teacher FastTrack Recruit mentor and Special Education Instructional Facilitator. A former Army Reserve member, Tamara enlisted to find stability after a challenging childhood.

Her military background shapes her empathetic teaching approach, recognizing that every student faces unique challenges. "I mentor with empathy because every student's journey is different," she explains.

Motivated by a desire to help young people, Tamara transitioned to education. She aims to inspire new teachers through mentorship, recalling how one mentee transformed from self-doubt to confidence under her guidance.

Tamara encourages future educators from unconventional backgrounds to embrace their experiences, stating, "Your background is your strength." Her commitment exemplifies how veterans can positively influence the education landscape, fostering resilience and confidence in both students and teachers.

Read more of Tamara's story on our website.

HONORING VETERANS THROUGH EDUCATION: PATRIOTS TO EDUCATION

Patriots to Education (PTE) is a dedicated non-profit organization focused on recruiting and qualifying retiring and separating veterans, National Guardsmen, Reservists, and their spouses to serve in public schools. By filling essential teaching and support roles, PTE ensures that youth receive quality education. The organization facilitates resource access for prospective employees, helping them navigate the job market while maintaining a commitment to veterans, school districts, and children.

The Inspiration Behind Patriots to Education

PTE was inspired by the need for passionate individuals invested in the future of education. Veterans represent an untapped pool of candidates with vital skills: a sense of duty, strong work ethic, organization, adaptability, and teamwork. Dr. George Ann Rice, with her military family background and extensive education experience, believes in providing opportunities for meaningful contributions to children's education.

Overcoming Challenges in Transitioning to Education

Transitioning from military to civilian careers can be challenging for veterans, due to overwhelming choices and unfamiliar systems. PTE aims to support this journey by offering guidance, empowering veterans to embrace their new roles in education. Both military and education careers provide significant opportunities to impact society and shape future generations.

Supporting Veterans in Education

PTE is committed to providing resources and support for veterans entering the education workforce. While currently operated with limited funding, PTE envisions a future with dedicated staff to assist veterans throughout their educational careers. The organization aims to expand nationwide by collaborating with military installations, state agencies, and universities to create a robust veteran support network.

On this Veterans Day, we express our deep appreciation to Dr. George Ann Rice and the team at Patriots to Education for their unwavering commitment to veterans and their families.
Their work not only helps veterans find fulfilling careers but also enriches children's education, fostering a brighter future for all.
Let's recognize and support the invaluable contributions of our veterans in the classroom and beyond.

PEF Teacher FastTrack

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