

LESSON OBSERVATION: EDUC 4020 PRACTICUM

Date: 2017-02-23

Teacher Candidate: David Cloutier

School: Connect- Gr. 5

Lesson Title: Conductivity Lab

Faculty Supervisor: O'Connor

Pre-conference Goals:

David has been very active in class and has taught numerous lessons already.

David is in a unique placement where he is able to teach 2 Math-Science classes of Grade 5.

David is a strong teacher, he is keeping up well with the load of co-teaching as he has been involved in long-range and short term co-planning.

I am in class conducting Week 6 observations

Lesson notes:

- Strong facilitation of transition from recess into lesson
- Good list of day plan on whiteboard; not only will assist you in schedule but also for students who require those supports.
- David was very diligent in getting class focused and on task.
- Lots of chatter and talking over instructor. Good that you did not let it go and try to speak over the class but actually stopped and addressed it (numerous times). Also, it was important to do this upfront and early, set the tone and hopefully this will lay expectations for them for rest of lesson. Something to continue to develop as you try to find ways to manage classroom behaviour.
- Strong facilitation of initial discussion on conductivity-safety
- I liked how you picked a student to project lab on whiteboard; not sure if deliberate but he was originally off task so getting him involved in this manner was smart
- David brings lots of good energy to the class, reinforces student input and is quick to respond to student questions.
- While I appreciate, and applaud your energy and pace, I recommend slowing down your own pace a bit. Let students finish their questions, pause at times for reflection and support/facilitate more student-led discussions. Try to incorporate this into your lessons also, it is important to provide times for reflection and also catch-up/review for students. To summarize, I love your energy but I think you will get more buy-in, student focus and also reduce classroom

management issues if you slow down, give more time for student questions/input and provide designated times in LP for review and student-led discussion.

- A real strength of yours is in the use of supporting technology to facilitate the lesson (ex: Doctopus; Picture)
- David provided me with an in-depth LP and I have access to his Practicum Binder (electronic-copy)
- Kids were excited with this lesson and mostly on-task, they were working on own, small groups and also responding as a class to teacher prompts.
- David uses a very approachable and kind voice when interacting with students, one suggestion is to slow down and be deliberate in your choice of words, you can be sometimes rushed and it may be difficult for some students to follow.
- David seems to know the classroom routine already.
- LP provided was well-thought out and included major areas as defined in MRU template. Some areas that I suggest need addressing are to include a more detailed time-schedule (ex: break up and delineate time for each section of lesson). Also, I would like to see more detail provided in Assessment section (ex: you refer to “anecdotal notes”, focused on what? Are you looking for growth, acquisition of knowledge, specific curriculum outcomes?)
- David’s MT, Mr. Kevin Sonico is a veteran teacher who has shown interest in our program in the past, he is new to working with MRU yet it is evident that David and Kevin work well together and both have very positive things to say regarding their collaboration.
- As always, David is a consummate professional.
- David circulates well within the room; he is approachable and is willing to speak to each student to discuss individually their progress.
- It seems David and Mr. Sonico work well together.
- Great record of planning and evident in electronic binder and on LPs
- David gives good instruction and is clear in his sequencing of steps.
- Asks good questions and provides an opportunity for students to ask questions or confer re instructions
- David is flexible and confident as he is able to shift quickly between lesson sections; With that being said, remember to read your audience, do not get caught up too much by a rigid sequence of lesson plan. Be ready to adapt and be willing to slow down steps to meet your students’ needs and pace.
- David provides direct and straight-forward directions, I recommend giving more time for students to respond to instruction. David is passionate and is energetic to share with his students. He also stands his ground and is direct in responding to students
- You seem to have some high-energy students and some with possible special needs, I suggest you take this opportunity to work with these students and take an interest in how to engage and support them.
- As previously mentioned, you are in an interesting position being able to teach two classes and therefore lessons twice. Some Qs to ponder after each lesson are “What would you change in the lesson and for both groups or different for each group?”; “What are the differences of the 2 classes, how do you adapt to their specific needs?”

Post-conference Goals:

- Would like to see more evidence of journal reflections, this is very important moving forward
- Continue excellent communication with MT and also developing rapport with students

- As we enter Week 7, start to consider what are some strengths and gaps in your professional skills
- In our seminar discussions, David is very considerate and self-reflective in his work
- As we now move into Week 7, consider ways to take on more initiative and be a leader in class.
- Review Midterm evaluation with Mr. Sonico as we begin to engage in this process this week.
- Continue to make sure you have read the seminar readings by Wed eve and posted on BB.
- I am supportive of Mr. Sonico's recommendation to have another MT observe you in a leadership position. I believe this will be beneficial as it will provide another perspective and provide you with suggestions and recommendations for your development. To clarify, Mr. Sonico will continue to be your sole MT and be responsible for your evaluations.

Reflective Logbook Feedback:

- Did receive at start of lesson, thank you
- Some assortment of LPs (in electronic GD folder), from planbook it seems you have taken on a considerable load of planning and /or teaching yet I could not find the associated LPs for these lessons.
- Appreciate some record of feedback on LPs, maybe find other ways to demonstrate your communication (as I understand you are communicating considerably)
- Please make sure you keep up with your reflective journal, I understand this can be difficult with all the pedagogical demands but I suggest this is a very important component to your development.

Portfolio Suggestions:

N/A

LESSON OBSERVATION: EDUC 4020 PRACTICUM

Date: 2016-04-11

Teacher Candidate: David Cloutier

School: Connect Charter school

Lesson Title: Gr. 5- Electric Inquiry

Faculty Supervisor: O'Connor

Pre-conference Goals:

David has been very active in class, teaching and planning up to 100% very early on. He has planned lessons and curriculum projects and has worked in a co-teaching/planning environment. He has taken the class lead role early on and has been fully engaged in the Connect school community. David had brought his skill and interest in educational technology to the school and has shown leadership in sharing his expertise with the staff. I am in class conducting Week 14 observations.

Lesson notes:

- David provided me with a detailed lesson plan at the beginning of the lesson.
- A master planner, David has demonstrated throughout the 14-week practicum that he is well prepared and his planning leads to strong facilitation of learning.
- David is very cognisant of classroom engagement and he stopped the class early to set the expectations and bring all students to attention.
- At the start of the lesson, David shared the expectations and did a good job of bridging prior knowledge (review of concepts) and tying it to upcoming learning.
- David has had a “busy” group that often can get distracted. He has worked on various ways to offset disruption and he has shown tremendous success. The most veteran of teachers would be challenged by some of these behaviours yet David has taken this on as a challenge and done very well in responding.
- I have observed over the course of the practicum that David has developed considerable strategies in his toolbox to engage students and keep class on task.
- David’s LPs have consistently been strong, he includes all major areas of learning and they are designed with the Curriculum Outcomes as a focal point. This has been a strength for David since the beginning of the practicum.
- David works well with his MT -Mr. Sonico, he responds well to input and they have been a good team.

- David has worked diligently on his teaching persona, his excitement and energy is undeniable yet he often struggled with pace as he was often quick and rushed instructions yet he now provides time for student responses and is cognisant of his timing and pace. Well done.
- David is leading a lesson that requires technology. David is very comfortable and proficient with technology and he uses it effectively to support and extend the learning.
- David started the lesson with energy and a positive attitude. He was also very cognisant of the current student behaviour and directed their attention and quickly got them engaged.
- David has demonstrated with ease that he can run the class and is comfortable in the lead teacher role.
- David works closely with his MT, Mr. Sonico who provides excellent support and David and Mr. Sonico are a good team.
- I really like your innate teacher abilities such as when giving instructions, responding to questions on the go and often responding as the lesson evolves outside of the plan. I like how you often write instructions, providing support on white board as you have dialogue with class in the beginning.
- David's logbook demonstrates the ongoing dialogue between his and his MT, it is daily and this is a record of their ongoing debriefing as part of good practice. Wonderful!
- David has been much more interactive with his students. He has worked very hard to build relationships with his students and that work is evident as he is well received by his students.
- He is honest and genuine with his students; this is a trait that will serve you well in your career.
- The students have accepted him as one of their teachers; the rapport developed is excellent.
- I appreciate you acknowledging a student's polite behaviour in the beginning of the lesson; this will go a long way in future.
- Most students are quiet, engaged and focused.
- I am impressed how you are able to support students with humility, acknowledging when you do not know answer yet assisting the student with finding it.
- Excellent prompts used to individual students and /or groups
- When asking students questions, Be careful on just agreeing with answer after each response...suggest summarizing their responses and acknowledge a key component that they shared that supports the lesson outcomes.
- You are natural in supporting the progression of the lesson; there is no awkward pauses.
- You had numerous students who were confused or struggling, you need to acknowledge it and use this as a teaching moment (review this with the group or return to the individual to follow-up), also use it to check in on how many of them are not understanding as part of assessment strategy.
- Language is important, good that you identified key words and provided support through electronic links and resources.
- I always received a formal lesson plan for the lessons I observed on a weekly basis.
- I appreciate you are willing to take risks, try new things and be adventurous.
- David has many students in a small area yet he is able to manage space relatively well, uses routine appropriately.
- David was able to pick-up on queues re behaviour, and addressed appropriately and also acknowledge when good behaviour.
- Shows excellent skill to be able to respond to input and reinforce concepts on-the-fly
- It is evident David knows all students' names.
- Excellent rapport with students, good teacher voice and intonations.

- His Mid-eval is positive and he is showing improvement in all areas with most rated as “developing”
- It is worthy to note that David is a true leader and has shown his innate leadership style throughout the practicum as he has consistently organized scheduling for his cohort and taken the lead in communicating and organizing events with his colleagues at Connect. Excellent trait.

Post-conference Goals:

- Continue open communication with MT-Mr. Sonico
- As we near the few days of the practicum, take risks and try to address some gaps in your professional skills
- The following have been identified as areas of growth in mid-eval:
 - Embrace a growth mindset towards the development of my practice.
 - Employing principles of backwards design, while incorporating more assessment data into designing flexible learning opportunities. :
 - Striving to create open-ended and inquiry-based learning opportunities in math, that utilize concrete, symbolic, and pictorial modes of learning;
 - Pacing elements of learning and transitions between learning, and encouraging all students to think and share their ideas fully (such as adequate wait times, celebrating risk taking, and more frequent strategies for students to build self-confidence in generating and sharing ideas); and
 - Using more frequent assessment data to understand lesson-by-lesson effectiveness and, to triangulate data that creates a stronger representation of student understanding.
- Enjoy your last few days in the classroom, use your time wisely and be cognizant of the professional qualities demonstrated by colleagues

Reflective Logbook Feedback:

- David’s online practicum binder is comprehensive and includes a comprehensive amount of lesson plans that reflects his extended time in the classroom.
- Journal was complete and demonstrates deep reflection of his practice.
- Dialogue with his MT-Mr. Sonico is evident and an exemplar to other teacher candidates and mentor teachers.
- Lesson plans were always provided to me at beginning of each weekly lesson.
- Well organized, has extensive daily journal, lots of planning, excellent record of debriefing process with MT.
- David is very reflective and honest, excellent journaling and questions.

Portfolio Suggestions:

- Will review at PLP presentations, please review instructions posted on BB
- To be completed for end of Week 15