Western Kentucky University

1. Elementary School Program – The concept of a specialist will need to be included in the proposal. We will need to think through the concepts of a major/minor in math, science, social studies, language arts, or some combination of the disciplines.

2. Admission Process – Screening candidates, etc.

3. Candidates will need to be in the field from the beginning of the program.

4. Schools are our customers.

5. Degree programs, majors, need to be personalized based on the needs of the schools.

6. Curriculum – Candidates need to develop research skills so they can diagnosis student learning and make necessary changes. They will need to be able to test ideas, i.e., improving practice through studying the problems of practice.

7. To attract quality candidates, they must know the nature of their future employment and their work in the schools.

8. We will need to think through the induction process. Will it be higher education driven or school-based focused?

9. What regulatory changes will need to occur?

10. Promotion and tenure – How does this work fit into the reward structure?

11. We will need to include section on financial implications/cost of implementing the program.

Public School Partners

1. Evidence of willingness to help build pathways with NCEE and NBPTS

2. The career pathways could include four steps and the master teachers will be a small group. There must be evidence that this process is being considered.

3. Differentiated compensation – Expertise needs to be foremost in the plan.

4. Existing teacher corps must be integrated into the system.

5. A system for specialists at the elementary level must be provided; however, the structure needs to facilitate student learning and not driven by certification.

6. PGES must be integrated into the plan, with exemplary being required for entry into the career pathways.

7. The proposal needs to include a description of what the school will look like to teachers. Opportunities must be provided for teachers to work together relative to various components of instruction.

8. School governance – There needs to be an explanation of how school boards and site-based councils will interface relative to decision making.

9. Needed regulatory changes will need to be identified.

10. Financial implications will need to be identified.