

Brevard Public Schools and Florida Skillbridge Internship Program

Brevard Public Schools and the Florida Skillbridge Internship Program have partnered for service members who are considering a second career in K-12 education. Each participant will have an opportunity to gain classroom experience, with increasing responsibility, and have the opportunity to understand the school and classroom environment/culture.

Each intern veteran will be assigned a mentor teacher who is certified in their area, has completed Clinical Educator Training (CET), and has at least three years of experience teaching with effective/highly effective performance reviews.

Mentor teachers will demonstrate professional behaviors that reflect commitment to ethical concerns and confidentiality of students. They will have excellent knowledge of pedagogy, subject matter, and demonstrate outstanding classroom management skills, as well as utilize culturally and linguistically responsive strategies to address the needs of diverse learners.

Mentor teachers will also demonstrate the ability to build and maintain relationships with students, families, and colleagues. Mentors will share information and ideas with the intern, articulate and model effective planning, instruction, and assessment. Mentor teachers will be approachable, provide constructive feedback and praise, and demonstrate respect for and collaborate well with colleagues.

The intern veteran will experience full-time student teaching in a structured, supervised process in which intern veterans work with collaborating teachers to develop their teaching skills. In this experience, interns will gain extensive practice teaching and in the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of their teaching fields.

In the first two weeks, intern veterans will observe, review curriculum, acclimate to the school building, review school policies and emergency procedures, and learn the schools' schedule. The intern veteran should learn students' names, review individual student health/diet/behavioral plans, and work with students under the guidance of their mentor teacher. They will observe classroom instruction, noting teaching styles, learning styles of the students, classroom management, and may assist with mentor teacher's duties (hallway coverage, bus duty, etc.).

Mentor teachers will provide opportunities for intern veterans to become involved in the classroom by gradually providing opportunities to assume responsibility of teaching groups of students, including lesson preparation. Mentor teachers will share information about the interests and abilities of each student and how to establish rapport, as well as demonstrate different techniques, procedures of teaching, and explain their underlying principles.

Intern veterans should seek mentor teacher's approval before implementing any lessons. Mentor teacher will observe lessons and provide constructive feedback and share ideas. Lesson

planning responsibilities will increase and the intern veteran will gradually assume 100% teaching responsibility.

Intern veterans will meet regularly with their mentor teacher to review their lesson plans, student performance, discuss plans to improve student learning, and the mentor teacher will guide the intern veteran to identify areas requiring self-improvement. Intern veteran should also meet with school administration to gain knowledge of the school leadership.

Internship Tentative Schedule:

Weeks 1 & 2: Intern veteran observe mentor teacher, build rapport with students, acclimate to school building/schedule/emergency procedures, and familiarize themselves with district/course curriculum.

Week 3: Intern veteran will gradually assume responsibility for teaching groups of students including lesson planning. You must have mentor teacher's approval before implementing any lessons; you must provide your lesson plans in advance to your mentor teacher.

Week 4: Continue with group teaching. Intern veteran should assist with lesson planning, taking attendance, and developing classroom materials for the following week. Meet with your mentor teacher regularly to discuss how to improve both instructional delivery/environment and student learning.

Weeks 5 & 6: Continue with previous week's activities and gradually begin teaching jointly-created/approved lesson plans with mentor teacher. Teaching responsibilities will gradually progress to 100%.

Week 7 - the end of internship: Intern veteran will plan for a full day of instruction and begin assuming 100% responsibility for the classroom. Intern veteran will meet regularly with mentor teacher to identify student needs, classroom management strategies, and plan to improve student success. Intern veteran can attend professional development training with mentor teacher, if available.

The length of the internship will vary depending on approval by military command. Brevard Public Schools may break up an 180 day internship into two internships at two separate schools so that the veteran intern can experience two different schools and two different mentor teacher styles.

