

## **5b. PROGRAM FOR PRE-CANDIDATES**

### **TRANSITION SEMESTER FOR CANDIDACY (TSC) (5)**

## **Transition Semester for Candidacy (TSC) Pre-Candidates**

At the beginning of the third year, the first semester of the program provides the Pre-Candidate students with an opportunity to work closely with both his/her Cohort Leader and a Mentor Teacher on preparing for the Candidacy Review process and conference. During the Transition Semester for Candidacy, Pre-Candidate students are not required to spend time in a specific classroom with the Mentor and children.

This transitional semester has been designed to help:

- a) Maintain a connection among Pre-Candidate students and partner schools and mentors
- b) Help with the Candidacy Review by getting a personal investment and involvement of the mentor teacher in the process prior and during the review conference
- c) Help provided to the Pre-Candidate student that focuses on developing specific skills/expertise; e.g., Multi-media presentation, Philosophy Statement, Presentation skills, etc.

The most important activity during this semester is that there be active communication between the pre-candidate student, the Mentor Teacher and Cohort Leader. To ensure that this takes place the following timeline/schedule has been developed:

- Initial meeting with Cohort Leader - early September
- First meeting with Mentor Teacher
- Mid meeting with Cohort Leader
- Second meeting with Mentor Teacher
- Third meeting with Mentor Teacher
- Final meeting with Cohort Leader – just prior to Candidacy Review

After the Candidacy Review conference has been held, this working relationship with his/her Mentor Teacher and Cohort Leader should continue throughout the remainder of the semester. For example, although it does not have to be formal, the student could choose to informally work on his/her upcoming LTT goals/outcomes. This time might also need to be used to meet any requirements stated by Candidacy Review Committee; e.g. remove conditional status.