

Black Hills State University
Program Review Summary Comments
Spring 2011

The teacher preparation programs at BHSU were reviewed by independent reviewers. Each of the programs was recognized as meeting the standards and are recommended for continuation as initial, advanced, and certification-only degree programs.

Listed below are some of the reviewer comments.

Summary of strengths:

Art education program

The 80% pass rate was met, although there were a relatively small number of candidates.

The faculty has made the transition to and implemented the Teacher Work Sample.

The faculty evaluation of curriculum offerings has resulted in an effort to attempt to strengthen the Praxis I scores.

Biology education program

There was a 100% candidate pass rate of the Praxis and PLT.

The program includes detailed rubrics for candidate evaluation.

The program is implementing a new assessment entitled “Teacher Work Sample”.

There is a strong evaluation of data component.

Business education program

Black Hills State University demonstrates teacher candidates’ strengths in both their content and pedagogical knowledge through multiple assessment measures. The value-added measure of the Major Field Test (in addition to the Praxis Content Exam) is a testament to the content knowledge provided to teacher candidates in the area of business.

Certification Only education program

100% of program completers scored at or above the required minimum SD passing score.

Program is constantly monitored and adjustments are made as necessary.

Candidates are piloting the Teacher Work Sample assessment which will be used in other teacher education programs at BHSU.

Three days of professional development are scheduled for clinical faculty to help develop the “tools” necessary to guide the candidates.

Chemistry education program

There was data for only one candidate in the program. This candidate exceeded the passing score in both the Praxis and the PLT.

Faculty members have created a new seminar course to better assess students.

The faculty has implemented the Teacher Work Sample.

Early Childhood Special Education program

Data is clearly presented.

Assessments adequately address all NAEYC and CEC standards.

Elementary education program

A good mix of assessments was utilized.

Assessments and instructional changes are linked.

Rubric for student teaching final appraisal yields 93% at outstanding or proficient levels.

Teacher work sample assessment data has been instituted.

Both content and pedagogy were well established in the report.

Feedback to promote student learning is documented and ongoing.

The university is making program changes based on data.

Candidates are involved in self-assessment throughout the learning process.

Statistics were clearly displayed for review.

A Professional School Model is being proposed to allow candidates more time in the classroom.

English education program

There is an ongoing discussion of revisions to the exit exam.

All English Ed faculty are participating in the assessment process.

This program has well qualified instructors.

Candidates have demonstrated content and pedagogical knowledge on the assessment.

History education program

Results for the History PRAXIS II Exam and the PRAXIS Principles of Learning and Teaching Exam for the academic years 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 show that 100% (10/10) of BHSU history teacher candidates passed the exams.

The fact that all ten of the BHSU history teacher candidates who took the History PRAXIS II Exam and the PRAXIS Principles of Learning and Teaching Exam passed is a positive reflection on the breadth of history and education courses included in the History Education program.

Industrial Technology education program

There was data from three program candidates. Although this is a small number, these candidates achieved significant assessment results.

Staff evaluation of data is done and recommendations to improve the program are made based on the evaluations.

Faculty is currently developing an exit exam.

The faculty is transitioning to a Teacher Work Sample.

Language Arts Composite education program

Scores reflect only 1 candidate in the program. It is difficult to assess the program effectiveness with a minimal amount of data.

The BHSU Education Department has plans to streamline the program in an attempt to increase the number of candidates in the program.

Math education program

The few students who have come through the program appear to be generally strong students in math who have also done well in the pedagogy aspect.

Music education program

The assessment results confirm that candidates are rated as outstanding or proficient.

Assessments are appropriate and the data that is collected is very comprehensive.

Analysis of the data by the clinical faculty is a strength.

Physical Education program

This program requires teacher candidates to take the Praxis II content test and make or pass the state established cut score prior to being admitted to the student teaching semester. The pass rate for the teacher candidates has been 100%.

The program utilizes assessments from the College of Education that have been tailored to the physical education program, to support what they assess in physical education. The statement of context presents a very clear picture of how the physical education program fits into the bigger picture of the teacher education program at Black Hills State University. An additional strength is the recognition that technology in physical education is more than the use of computers, but encompasses a wider variety of tools than might be present in a traditional classroom.

Reading Specialist education program

Having been approved by the Board of Regents in 2003, the Reading Specialist graduate program is a relatively young, developing program. After program data was reviewed, some revisions have been implemented, and these substantive changes have improved the program. Further revisions are being planned to better align to standards.

Social Studies education program

Even though there was a small number of candidates, the assessment results are commendable.

There appears to be a well qualified faculty.

The faculty is commended for the ongoing evaluation of assessment results.

Even though there was a small number of candidates, their scores were quite high.

Spanish education program

100 percent of the seven candidates scored above the pass rate on the state licensure exams.

Faculty members have reviewed student data and made adjustments to the program in an attempt to improve assessment scores.

Special Education program

High candidate performance on Praxis II SPED content exam and Praxis II PLT.

Using virtual tools for classroom experiences demonstrates use of technology.

The program has clear transition points.

Technical elements of report were clear overall.

Data reported clearly for all assessments except Assessment 2.

The tool to assess themselves by the P-12 learner was a unique aspect of the program.

Speech education program

Assessment results confirm that this one candidate exceeded the 80% pass rate.

Even though there is assessment data from only one candidate, the faculty have analyzed these results and made curricular changes.