The USD Teacher Residency Education Program

The faculty in the School of Education at USD have identified three core values guiding all that candidates do throughout the program and seven core and professional competencies deemed essential by the profession around which our coursework and fieldwork revolve. The core values and competencies are a part of our common language complementing our common vision.

Core Values:
1. Cultural Responsiveness
2. Differentiated Instruction
3. Instructional Technology

Competencies:
1. Planning and Preparation
2. Learning Environments
3. Instructional Support
4. Classroom Management
5. Assessment
6. Student Engagement
7. Professionalism

How impactful is the USD Teacher Residency Program?

The latest research coming out of the Educational Research Center in the School of Education at the University of South Dakota shows that the USD Teacher Residency Program is making positive impacts on K-12 student achievement. As a result of close working relationships with school district partners, USD was able to investigate the impact the USD Teacher Residency Program has on literacy skills. USD used data over a four-year period in elementary classrooms and found that students in grades K-4 had significantly higher literacy skills when there was a USD year-long residency candidate in the classroom than when there was not a USD residency candidate in the classroom. The skills when a USD residency candidate was in the classroom ranged from 7%-18% higher, than when no USD residency candidate was in the classroom. These findings support the effectiveness of the USD Teacher Residency Program and the effects of a strong school/university partnership.