Dear Curriculum Committee,

In January, the state presented revised requirements for a Reading Endorsement in light of new state legislation, including the “Third Grade Guarantee.” A group of Teaching and Learning faculty quickly began meeting to discuss how the revisions affected our endorsement, and worked to update our course offerings to reflect these changes. The largest change was a state requirement that all endorsements be a minimum of 15 semester hours, and no more than 21 semester hours, with at least 75% of the candidate’s course credits toward the endorsement earned at the graduate level. Additionally, we would like to request that the endorsement be available for offering on our regional campuses: Lima, Marion, Mansfield, and Newark.

Below are both the old endorsement sheet and the proposed revised sheet, which will demonstrate how we are aligning with these requirements. The changes include:

1. The requirement of a course addressing phonics content for all students.
2. The removal of Children’s Literature and Language Arts as categories.
3. The addition of a Linguistically Diverse Readers category to address ever growing multilingual populations.
4. Removal of 2 pre-requisite categories: Language Learning and Content & Development.

These changes ensure that students meet the state requirements and decrease credit hours for all students to 15. The remaining pre-requisite of 12 hours of pre-service reading coursework is mandated by the state and achieved by all students with Early or Middle Childhood licenses that were received in the last 15 years. Those students with K-12 or AYA 7-12l licenses will have approximately 9 hours of additional coursework.

This proposal was vetted by the Graduate Studies Committee in the Department of Teaching and Learning and approved unanimously.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Caroline Clark
Chair, Department of Teaching and Learning