

IDEAS BEHIND THE PASSPORT

Teaching is more than the classroom, more than planning lessons and grading papers, and even more than connecting with students and families. Teaching is the work of the village. It is a team of teachers, administrators, and classified employees working together to surround students and families with support.

During your time in Springfield Public Schools, we want you to explore the field of education, not just the classrooms, but the entirety of the career. While with us, we invite you to experience as many aspects of our school system as you can. This includes distinct experiences and journaling in four specific areas:

- 6 Experiences = Specialty Areas
- 7 Experiences = Specialty Classrooms
- 5 Experiences = Duties
- 5 Experiences = Meetings

MEETINGS

It takes a lot of time and effort to coordinate the work being done in schools and across districts. That means there are a ton of meetings at which people share what's happening, ask for input, and work together to create new approaches.

Each of the meetings listed below is a regular meeting that contributes to the running of the school/district. For this section of your passport: (1) ask your cooperating teacher to introduce you to a member of each team, (2) check in with the person you'd like to shadow and identify the time of the meeting, the purpose of the group, and what you should bring, (3) arrive on time and participate full, and (4) journal about your experience - "In what ways do outside involvements positively impact a teacher's ability to do his/her job?"



YOUR GUIDE TO Exploring Education

IN SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

BUILDING MEETINGS (3)

- Staff Meeting
- PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization)
- PBIS (Positive Behavior Support)
- Leadership
- Math and/or Literacy
- RTI (Response to Intervention)
- Grade Level
- IEP (Individual Education Plan)

DISTRICT MEETINGS (2)

- Elementary Leadership
- School Board
- SEA (Springfield Education Association)




OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Your explorations do not need to end with those listed in this brochure. Talk to people. Find out about their involvements, and tag along.

- After School Programs
- Working with Parent Volunteers (Popcorn)
- Evening Events
- Field Trips
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Viewing Transitions in Multiple Classrooms



Created by the teachers at:

TWO RIVERS
DOS RÍOS  ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DUTIES

We all work together to support our students, and that includes ensuring their safety in every area of the grounds and each time of the day. Each school has defined duties based on the layout of the building, the movement of students, and transportation needs.

Each of the following is a regular, daily duty for staff. For this section of your passport: (1) find a staff member who has your chosen duty and ask if you can shadow them, (2) discuss with them the purpose and rules for the duty, (3) arrive on time and participate fully, and (4) journal about your experience - "How do you see students differently when you are interacting with them outside of the classroom?"

- RECESS
- CAFETERIA (BREAKFAST OR LUNCH)
- STUDENT DROP-OFF OR PICK-UP
- BUS DUTY
- SAFETY PATROL

SPECIALTY AREAS



Schools are made up of teachers, classified employees and administrators. Each contributes in a specific way to the education and educational experience of our students and their families. Understanding the unique contributions of the entire staff will help you identify who to approach with your questions, with concerns you have for your students, and for information requested by families.

Each of the following people/groups provides specific types of support to your students. For this section of your passport: (1) Ask your cooperating teacher to introduce you to each of these people at your school, (2) check in with the people you'd like to shadow and arrange a time, (3) arrive on time and participate fully, and (4) journal about your experiences - "What connections should be made between classroom teachers and the specialty areas?"

For your time with District Support, work with your teacher to find a shadow experience that interests you.

IN THE OFFICE (2)

- Principal
- Secretary
- Health Aide

AROUND THE SCHOOL (3)

- Custodian
- Kitchen Staff
- Family Center Coord
- Classroom EA
- SpEd EA

DISTRICT SUPPORT (1)

- Superintendent
- Print Shop
- Tech Services
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Instruction Dept
- Transportation
- Facilities
- Special Program

SPECIALTY CLASSROOMS



Teachers come in many forms. Look around any school or district and you'll find classroom teachers, music teachers, Special Education teachers, Speech-Pathologists, School Psychologists, ELL Specialists, Librarians, PE teachers, Title One Specialists, and more. Each holds specific keys to instruction, curriculum, and student connections.

Specialty classrooms can refer to the subject area, student support, or specific skills.

For this section of your passport: (1) Ask your cooperating teacher to introduce you to each of these people at your school, (2) check in with the person you'd like to shadow and arrange a time, (3) arrive on time and participate fully, and (4) journal about your experiences - "How do the connections made in the specialty classrooms differ from the relationships in GenEd classrooms? How are they similar?"

It is okay to visit another school. Talk to your cooperating teacher about people they know in other buildings. Perhaps the two of you can arrange a visit.

ELECTIVES (2)

- Music
- Library
- PE

SUPPORT (2)

- ELD
- SpEd
- Speech
- Title I

APPROACHES (3)

- Management
- Conferences
- Class Meetings
- Integrated Instruction
- RTI
- Math (Daily 3)
- Class Blogs
- Integrating Technology
- Picture Schedules
- Record Keeping
- Organization
- Using Music in Class
- Vocabulary Instruction
- Literacy

