

Good morning University partners,

We have been very happy to be a part of programs that support future teachers. We do our very best to place every student teacher that we can, as we recognize this critical phase in their preparation.

Today I am reaching out to ask for your help. The pandemic's impact on schools has been felt in so many areas. As you know, we have been dealing with a technology divide, home supervision issues, supporting students with IEPs, counseling, speech, and other related services, and other issues. As we plan to move from a fully remote environment to a hybrid model with some in-person learning, we are facing a critical staffing shortage.

There are two major factors contributing to this. We have staff that are taking leaves for medical and personal reasons, creating an unusual need for qualified staff. Couple this with an unprecedented absence of applicants for the positions and a lack of available substitutes, and we are in a dire situation to provide the quality instruction our students deserve.

If you have any avenues to reach out to recent graduates looking for full time positions or current students that would be interested in substituting occasionally, I would be very grateful if you could "send them our way". Feel free to provide our contact information to any such potential candidate, we are looking to fill positions at all grade levels, PreK-8.

Thank you for any help you could provide.

Any interested candidates can contact:

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Sincerely,



Anthony Petruzzelli, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Westampton Township Public Schools