OSU-Cascades
1500 SW Chandler Avenue, Bend, Oregon 97702-9595
T 541-322-3100 | **F** 541-706-2000 | OSUcascades.edu

Letter of Support for an Undergraduate Elementary Education Major at OSU-Cascades

February 1, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

As Program Lead and Senior Instructor for the Teacher Education program at OSU-Cascades, I wish to relay the support of our faculty for the proposed undergraduate Elementary Education major, currently undergoing CAT 1 review. In concert with senior leadership, our MAT faculty has undertaken a rigorous review of the potential impact of the expanded offering and determined that, while the enrollment of MAT Elementary Education should slightly decline (about one third of our enrollment -6-10 students-in the elementary cohort comes to us directly from our undergraduate HDFS major), the enrollment demand for the undergraduate major will far exceed the projected "loss." For the past four years, the faculty has worked closely with the six Central Oregon School districts, as well as Chalkboard (through Teach Oregon), to develop a pipeline for bringing underrepresented populations into the teaching field, and an undergraduate major that provides better funding and financial aid, as well as articulated transfer opportunities from Central Oregon Community College, is a major key to success. Changes in state licensure requirements for teaching, as well as the opportunities presented by Cascades' expansion, further support the request for undergraduate major approval.

In addition to "self" analysis, we have consulted with the College of Education in Corvallis to minimize enrollment impact and limit competition. Our proposed program differs from the Double Degree, and it will serve the needs of Central Oregon students and schools. The Licensure Executive Committee of the College of Education has approved this program at OSU-Cascades.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Platt, PhD
Program Lead and Senior Instructor
Teacher Education, OSU-Cascades
541-322-3120