

**SCED 4989: Professional Learning Plan (Professional Development)  
and Leadership Assignment**

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**Part I: DM4: Reflection: Seek learning experiences (e.g., professional, research, colleagues, community) as sources of reflection to improve teaching.**

1. Identify one source (e.g., research/books, professional development/workshops, colleagues, community experiences, etc.) and explain how this has helped you improve your teaching.

*My most valuable teaching resource this year has been the mentor teachers with which I have been paired as well as the other teachers at the school at which I have done both my practicum and student teaching. They have been incredibly supportive, have listened to my trials, and have been a continuous fountain of knowledge and resources. They have opened their classrooms to me. They have heaped upon me all the worksheets, activities, teaching examples, and organizational tips that they have gleaned over the course of their more than 100 years of combined experience. They have welcomed me into their learning community and have taught me how to successfully work in a PLC group. Most importantly, they have taught me not to be afraid to share what I have gleaned, whether success or failure, with my colleagues in order to increase the success of all.*

2. List your professional content organization with its website (Example, NCTM, NCTE, etc.) What resources are available for teaching and professional development (e.g., conferences/workshops, etc.)?

*NCTM – National Council of Teachers of Mathematics    [www.ntcm.org](http://www.ntcm.org)*

*The NCTM offers national and regional conferences with multiple workshops on lesson planning, working with exceptional students, and how to engage students in the learning process. The NCTM also sends out multiple newsletters daily with improved lesson plans and teaching techniques.*

*Utah State Office of Education    <http://schools.utah.gov>*

*The Utah State Office of Education offers additional classes over the summer for teachers. These classes are held over the course of a week. Presenters are teachers from the state and district which have had success in their classroom with particular lessons and teaching techniques which they then share with their local colleagues.*

**Part II: DM4: Develop a professional learning plan based on individual needs and the needs of the learners, schools, and educational community.**

Fill in the information below based on your student teaching experience.

1. Describe the teaching support that is available to students, faculty, and community. Example, tutoring services, staff developers, PLC, etc.

*Students have multiple supports in order to achieve. The school itself offers a specific time for students to meet with their teachers and go over the material again. Students can volunteer to sign up for this opportunity and/or students can be called in by their teachers. This program has been of great success to many of the students who have taken advantage of the extra learning time.*

*One of my own children is currently involved in a 4-H program which offers afterschool tutoring and mentoring once a week at his elementary school. When I was high school, I participated in the TRIO program Upward Bound. It is linked to a local college and created to assist low-income, free-generation students to attend and succeed in their collegiate futures. Both of these programs offer additional assistance beyond what the teacher can offer themselves.*

2. Identify one area of weakness you are currently experiencing and identify a goal you can set to make an improvement in this area.

a. Weakness: *Discipline of individual student's problems.*

b. Goal: *Create and implement a successful multi-step discipline plan.*

3. Rationale: Write a short reason why it is important to set and reach this goal.

*I have been procrastinating putting a specific discipline plan down on paper because I have been unsure as to the best way to approach the situation. Also, up to this point, I have had a mentor teacher in the classroom to 'back me up' if there was an issue. Being left alone in the classroom has made it glaringly obvious that I have been underprepared. Most of my students don't require any more intervention than a quick call back to attention. There are a few, however, that require a more active approach. It is imperative to implement a plan as soon as possible in order to promote a productive learning environment.*

4. How will you measure/assess if you reached your goal?

*I will be able to assess if I have reached my goal by being able to deal quickly and effectively with behavioral issues in the classroom. I can measure its effectiveness and success by documenting behavioral issues and whether they reoccur with the same frequency as prior to implementation.*

5. What is the timeline for your goal?

*I plan to begin implementing my behavioral management plan tomorrow. I should see data on whether it is successful or not by the end of next week. Further tweaks can be implemented as needed.*

6. Explain if you met your goal and what was the outcome?

*Further data is needed. Report to follow by April 7, 2014.*

**Part III: DM6: Participate as part of a learning community, sharing responsibility for each student's learning by giving and receiving feedback.**

1. Explain your experience with participating in a professional learning committee (PLC) at your school. Explain how the members on the committee shared responsibilities for each student's learning?

*Throughout the week, members of the math department take the time to communicate with each other about the successes and struggles of their students. They also schedule time on Monday afternoons to meet as a department to further discuss particular student issues as well as to create common assessments (homework, classwork, quizzes, and tests.) They share the responsibilities of creating these assessments. Some are more adept at using the computer and can organize the content that others create on the spot into usable worksheets, presentations, and activities. Each member of the community brings a different perspective and additional data to the table which in turn helps both themselves and others to create a more productive curriculum.*

2. Explain how you engage in professional learning to enhance knowledge and skills in your content area and how you may share your knowledge and skills to advance professional practice with other colleagues.

*Besides attending and actively participating in school and district PLC meetings, I have begun to participate in the math twitter and blog community. This larger international community of math educators is actively striving to assist each other in creating interesting, engaging lessons which encourage students to actively participate in high-order critical thinking skills.*