BGSU Conceptual Framework for Educator Preparation* “PREP”

Educator Preparation Mission Statement: *Together we empower the future.*

Educators endeavor, not so much to provide a prescribed set of thoughts or actions, as to prepare individuals, each to think and to enact his or her own capabilities and choices. Educators lead others to become empowered to direct their futures and our own. To do so, educators must themselves be well and broadly prepared with regard to content knowledge, pedagogical skills and the characteristics of learners and the influences on them. Educators must be committed to understanding the factors that impact educational success and be sensitive to cultural, linguistic and socio-economic factors as expressed in the diverse individuals they encounter. They must work to construct environments in which all can succeed, skillfully utilize the educational and technological tools available to them, collaborate with colleagues and the community, and systematically reflect and act on the effectiveness of their practice. To be effective, educators must be involved with the communities in which they practice, understand the strengths and constraints of the supports and resources that provide the critical background influences (both positive and negative) for their clientele and collaboratively incorporate the capabilities of others into their work. Educators must exhibit appropriate professional dispositions and concern themselves with the ethics of their actions with individuals and families as well as with regard to the integrity of the communities they serve. Finally, they must be accountable for their performance and be committed to ongoing improvement of their own personal capabilities. The goal of BGSU is to empower our educator candidates to act in various capacities to make a positive impact on the future of learners, clients and colleagues. Toward that end, we hold the following as guiding concepts:

- An effective educator is broadly and thoroughly *prepared*.
- An effective educator is a *reflective* practitioner.
- An effective educator is actively *engaged* within the larger educational community.
- An effective educator is foremost *a professional*, with life-long commitment to learning and to all learners.