



| JANUARY 15 | 2021

Field Experiences Continue, Despite COVID - 19

Our preK-12 public and private school partners and their students and parents have endured an incredibly stressful fall, alternating between fully remote teaching, to hybrid contexts, and even teaching in completely in-person contexts. Katy Kopaskey, pictured above, is a VWU alum and first year Kindergarten teacher who has found success in what most would rank the most difficult time to begin teaching. As a member of the **9:8 7HDFKHU (GXFDWLRQ \$GYLVRU\ %RDUG .DW\ ZDV Dfndfnd O H G J I U X Q Q L Q J ' E \ K H K X P L Q V U H F W X U F H G U N H S U T e a c h e r s ! W D W L Y H**

You might imagine how difficult it is for a school district to place VWU teaching candidates in their classrooms during this time of obtaining their

teaching license. Thanks to our wonderful PreK-12 partners, 18 VWU teaching candidates were placed and successfully completed their practicum or student teaching experiences last fall. **\$OWKR XJK WKH ILHOG H[SHULHQFHV ZHUH GLII** statements about their time working with K -12 students were positive and they learned a lot from their cooperating teachers.

It is important to note that managing the paperwork for field experience placements and mentoring a teaching candidate during this time adds another stress to an already incredibly stressful fall for school **GLVWULFWV¶ DGPLQLVWUDWLRQ DQG WKHLU WHDFKHUV :H DL** support even during these trying times.

New Online Graduate Education Degree

We are very excited to announce a new online graduate program beginning in the Fall 2021 semester: A Master of Education with a concentration in Teacher Leadership. The online Master of Education Degree (M.Ed.) with a concentration in Teacher Leadership is designed for licensed teachers who are passionate about teaching and learning and seek to become teacher leaders. Core courses in the program require teachers to take part in reflective and responsive teaching through open-minded reflection on current practices in education with a focus on contemporary reform and education research. Aligned to the [National Competencies of Teacher Leadership](#), the courses within the Teacher Leadership concentration

Congratulations are in Order



