Entry 6

Professional Logs

Professional Development Experiences
(To Enhance Your Professional Growth)

Name: Bobbi Ehrlich   **School:** Bluemont Elementary
                                           Eisenhower and Anthony Middle Schools

Date	Event	Benefits / Learning Derived	Plans for Continual Growth
1/7	Clinical Orientation Meeting	This meeting was similar to a new teacher orientation. It allowed me to get to know the building rules and expectations.	Continue to pay attention to the school handbook and all policies and procedures in order to be sure I am following ethical conduct.
1/13	Library Technology Meeting	This meeting was my chance to get to know the technology available through the school library and all about the iPad carts and how to check them out.	Try and find a way to include the iPads in the classroom. Use the resources in the library to enhance my music classroom.
1/14	Clinical Instructor Meeting	This meeting was to discuss the portfolio layout as well as the best ways to assess students and how to document it. The part about assessing students was important as this is applicable on a daily basis.	Consider assessment strategies and how to best use these strategies in the classroom.
2/10	Job-Alike Seminar	This seminar was spent with Mr. McCoy as a guest talking about teaching with recorder in the classroom and using improvisation and imitation to develop the students' musical abilities, differentiate instruction, and keep students busy.	Many of these techniques could be applied in a beginning band classroom as well and would be fun to include in the future. Do some research on improvisation and imitation as a teaching technique.
2/28-3/1	KMEA In-Service Workshop	This workshop is a chance for music educators across the state to come together and see ensembles perform as well as attend clinics. I attended a plethora of clinics and heard a few ensembles perform. I also had the chance to meet up with many professional colleagues and discuss student teaching and the job hunt.	Friend some of the presenters I saw on Facebook, use handouts to guide further development, and add best repertoire heard to my favorite repertoire database.
3/11	Military Connected Students class at KSU	This class talked about what it is like to teach military students and how to reach the needs of those students. It was a chance for student teachers to discuss and debrief on the military student experiences they had so far in the semester and to continue to develop strategies and techniques to reach out	Ordered the free book that was recommended and will read it this summer for more good tips to use with these students and their families.

		to these students.	
3/14	iPad Workshop	This workshop discussed different ways to include the iPad in the classroom. He introduced a couple of apps which I had used before, such as NearPod and also one that I had not ever used before called Aurasma.	Look into how I could use Aurasma in a band setting – it seems pretty cool!
4/7	iPad Workshop	This workshop discussed apps that you can use to make groups in the classroom in a more random fashion, as well as being able to set parameters for said groupings. They also discussed ways that they have used or would like to use the iPads in the classrooms.	Look into GroupMaker – this seems like it could be handy for projects or cooperative learning ideas.

Reflections

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In regards to my professional development experiences, one of my strengths is that I am aware of how much I can grow from other people's ideas and therefore am willing to take in everything I can. I would say that another strength is my willingness to give anything a try, especially in regards to technology integration. One of my weaknesses is that I often settle for only the amount of information provided at a professional development workshop or conference, rarely looking to interact with the person afterwards, ask questions, or go beyond the surface.

In the future, I would like to give more pursuit to the ideas that spark my interest. Whether this be further research, getting contact information of the person who gave the original idea/presentation, or simply giving it a try in my classroom to see how it goes – the point of professional development is to use it to improve your teaching. They aren't good ideas unless they are being implemented to improve the overall learning of the student.