Dear Teacher Preparation Program Candidate: We are so very excited to have the opportunity to work with you as you learn the knowledge and the skills needed to be a highly effective teacher for California’s public schools. As we prepare for our time together, our faculty are working on creating professional communities of learners which will operate in particular courses and at our school sites. To assist us in this detail-oriented “match making,” we need to collect some information from you. There are no right answers the questions below. We are merely trying to get to know a bit more about you and your preferences before we all officially meet together during orientation days (Wednesday, August 22nd through Friday, August 24th, 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. each day, more information coming soon). Our thanks in advance for your candid and timely responses. See you in August!

Name: __________________________________________             Date:  _________________

- California’s K-12 student population is very diverse: 51% of students are Hispanic/Latino, 17% are English learners, and 55% are from low income families [www.ed-data].
  o When you see these data, what is the first thought that comes to your mind?
  o Using a scale of 1 (not comfortable) to 5 (very comfortable), rate your current feelings about working with students from each of these groups:
    ____students of color
    ____English learners
    ____low income students
  o Using a scale of 1 (very little experience) to 5 (very extensive experience), rate your current level of experience working with students or people from each of these groups:
    ____students of color
    ____English learners
Many of our partner schools are implementing innovative educational programs. Using a scale of 1 (not really interested) to 5 (super interested), rate your level of interest in completing field experiences and/or student teaching in a school that features the identified program.

- Dual Immersion (e.g., curriculum is taught in both English and a second language, like Spanish or Hmong) program
- Montessori program (features include multi-age classrooms, individually paced instruction, lots of hands on materials with a focus on inquiry/discovery)
- Integrated thematic instruction (themes like, citizenship, discovery, how things work are used by teachers to organize what is taught in each content area and there is a common thematic thread across all content areas)
- Project-based instruction (projects like improving a classroom’s energy efficiency or identifying and eliminating lead-based paint as the basis for an inter-disciplinary curriculum that blends concepts and applications)
- Linked Learning/Career Academies (high school pathways that integrate strong academic programs with rigorous career/technical education – students use knowledge and skills learned through these integrated programs in real-world internships throughout their time in high school)

If you have had experience as a student, teacher or in some other capacity with any of the programs listed above, please identify which program, your role and the length of time of your involvement:

The following is a list of actions and attributes. Please rate yourself on each of these items. 1 = not yet a strength of mine and 5 = totally me/100% me!

- Shy and take my time getting to know someone
- Like to observe first and then slowly become involved
- Need clear and direct instructions
- Like to jump right in and get the job done
Intuitive, able to read between the lines
Need a lot of positive feedback, especially when trying something new
Need to try things out first, then reflect to figure out what worked & why
Pretty tolerant of changes and some level of unpredictability
Assertive, I know how to communicate my point of view in a respectful way
I will do whatever it takes to get the job done.
No one is harder on me than I am on myself.
I don’t like to “rock the boat,” even if it means my own ideas or values are somewhat compromised.
I can be relied on to participate, even when a task moves away from my immediate interests.
I am able to resolve problems without losing control of my emotions.
I find it easy to see things from another person’s point of view.

Please complete the following thoughts using the first words that come to mind for you:

Imagine it is 2018 and you have been teaching since you got your credential. What 3 adjectives would be used to describe you as a teacher by...

- Your students:
- Your colleagues:
- Your students’ parents:
- Your principal:

Please tell us anything else about you that might assist us as we develop our professional communities of learners.