

Dispositions Review Process and Dispositions Assessment Review

- Tk20 also reflects the Conceptual Framework of Northwest Missouri State University through its collection of disposition assessments. After several meetings, the NCATE committee chose the Niagara University Disposition Assessment as our base disposition assessment tool, due to past research completed with this assessment indicating that it was a valid and reliable measure of teacher preparation dispositions. Niagara University gave Northwest permission to use and modify this assessment. After speaking with a field experience committee, the disposition assessment was modified for the following uses:
 - The original Niagara disposition will be used by the students, their University Supervisors, Cooperating Teachers, and Content Supervisors (if applicable) during student teaching.
 - The same assessment has been renamed the “Graduate Disposition Assessment” and is used four times during a graduate student’s career at Northwest: in lieu of a reference letter; by a faculty member or advisor after 9-12 credit hours are completed; by the student after program completion; and by a faculty member or advisor upon program completion.
 - The field experience committee also abridged the assessment to its seven most valuable questions, renaming it the *Mini Disposition*. This assessment will be completed by Cooperating Teachers during each student’s field experience until he/she student teaches, and also by the student’s instructor during the second practicum course. Cooperating Teachers will complete a hard copy of this assessment, and the student will submit the hard copy to the TESS office, and Graduate Assistants will upload the results to Tk20.
 - Finally, the Niagara Disposition Assessment was modified to allow for narrative content and renamed the *Red Flag Disposition*. This assessment on Tk20 allows advisors, instructors, University Supervisors and Cooperating Teachers to log when a student has done something exceptionally well or poorly. The Assessment Coordinator completes a report on this form every Tuesday to determine if a new disposition has been completed on a student. If the Assessment Director finds cause for concern or the need for remedial action based upon the review for an educator candidate, the advisor of the student and Assistant Director of Teacher Education will be notified via email. The Assessment Coordinator will copy comments from the disposition form on Tk20 and share these with the advisor and the Assistant Director of Teacher Education. The Assessment Director, Assistant Director of Teacher Education and the advisor will confer on the following next steps : 1. Hold an individual conference with the student; 2. Send a letter to the student with remedial actions and a timeline; 3. Ask the student to develop a plan to rectify the disposition; or 4. In the case of severe or multiple dispositional offenses, refer the student to the Teacher Education Guidance Committee.