



*Reaching New Heights*

# Undergraduate Clinically Rich Teacher Preparation Program

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# Program Overview/Goals



## **Pilot for alternative teacher preparation:**

- Focus on science and math
- Blend theory with extensive clinical experience
- Increase the role of school partners in teacher preparation
- Better prepare candidates for the demands of the teaching profession



# Partner

- Binghamton High School
- Serves grades 9-12
- ~1600 students
- Classified as high-need and a School in Need of Improvement (SINI)



# Major Components

- 1. Residency:** Cohort-based, academic year long internship using a co-teaching model and mentored by partner school & university faculty
- 2. Courses** in urban education and pedagogy that were integrated with the clinical experience as well as shared PD opportunities.
- 3. Candidate assessment system** based on partner school's APPR, NYS Teacher Education Standards, and the edTPA
- 4. Post-graduation mentoring** to support candidates as they transition to their first years of teaching in high-need settings



*"I want to teach in the roughest, toughest school I can find. This is giving me the practical tools I need."*

-Robin Tobin, Adolescence Education Mathematics



# Challenges

- Recruitment
  - Mentor teachers & APPR
- Scheduling
  - Intern workload
- Expectations of teacher candidates as "interns"
- Sustainability

# Feedback!



*"Hey Dr. Pagano! So I had my first observation last week and had my post observation conference today and I scored a 46/50 and got the compliment, "you are not a first year teacher." I thought you would enjoy that!"*

*-Zack Graczyk, Adolescence Education Earth Science*

*"I think it has really given me the experience to go in to a job interview, to go into a job and just be comfortable with myself. It's as if I have a full year experience now."*

*-Brady Talbot, Adolescence Education Mathematics*

*"I think it was, by far, the best experience because I strongly believe it all centers around the student and the relationships that you can make with them."*

*-Kevin Pendergast, Mentor Teacher, Mathematics*

*"If you ever do this again, sign me up. I like to be able to stretch myself and this stretch me in a way that I had never been stretched before. I think my kids loved it."*

*-Susan Mayer, Mentor Teacher, Earth Science*