Teacher Candidate Dispositions Questionnaire
(Teacher Candidate Version)

Directions: The writing tasks of this questionnaire are designed to measure your consistency with some of the national, and state Teacher Education Program standards for the preparation of professional teachers. These questions specifically assess your dispositions for the teaching profession as stated in the Kentucky Teacher Standards (KTS), and the Boyce dispositions for service, collaboration, and the teacher as a reflective practitioner. Your responses will be used to help you identify any beliefs that are contrary to the standards for these dispositions. Your responses will also be pooled with the responses of other Boyce teacher candidates so that we can improve our teacher preparation unit here at Boyce College.

We request that you respond honestly in your written response to each of these. Read each question and answer from your heart. Be as specific as possible. You must word process your answers. Please number your response to match the question number.

Dispositions Assessment Question #1

Select a central concept of your teaching discipline. If you will be teaching several subjects, such as in elementary grades, choose any one subject you will be teaching. Then list at least 5 central concepts that are important in the teaching of the knowledge or skills of that discipline. Finally, tell why each one of the listed concepts is important for students to learn for that subject area. You are not to use any research material to answer this question. Answer according to your present knowledge without reference to any sources.

Dispositions Assessment Question #2

You are a teacher in a school where the prevailing idea is that the individual teacher’s classroom is his/her own domain and that the other teachers’ classroom is their domain. You are also aware that some of the learners under certain teachers are not doing as well as others in other classrooms, though all classes are heterogeneously grouped. You know there is a more effective way for helping all learners achieve to their greatest potential. What prevailing attitude do you believe YOU should have in order to begin to change this situation? What changes do you believe need to be made to help all learners in the school reach their learning potential? What role will YOU need to play to make this happen?

Dispositions Assessment Question #3

“Children differ in the way they learn”… Explain why this statement is or is not true using your awareness and knowledge of diverse learning modalities and of developmental and cognitive psychology. Then explain how you would use the concept of differentiated instruction to meet the diverse learning needs of a classroom of learners.
Dispositions Assessment Question #4

You recognize that you need to collaborate with the other teachers to create a culture of a professional community of learners to enhance student learning in the school. **What one skill for you is the most important as you begin to plan to collaborate with the other teachers?** Once you identify that all-important skill, explain why it is such a vital skill for building collaborative leadership among the other teachers.

Dispositions Assessment Question #5

**What is the role of assessment in the teaching/learning process?** In your answer, first give a clear definition of assessment, then tell how you will use assessment in your own teaching, both during and after instruction. Finally, tell the basic purpose of all assessment strategies.

Dispositions Assessment Question #6

Tell about a particular success or failure you have experienced in your own personal life. **In the aftermath of the experience what did you do in order to assure that you would or would not do the same things again, if similar circumstances arose for you? Do you think you learned anything valuable from your experience?** Tell why or why not. Explain how the answer to this question relates to your professional improvement as a teacher.

Dispositions Assessment Question #7

You have been teaching for several years as an elementary school teacher. You know you have gained some respect for your commitment to teaching, and have observed that all the teachers, including yourself, function in relative isolation from the other teachers with little or no communication among them about what goes on in the classrooms. You believe that the school should work more as a team to promote more effective student learning. **What action do you believe you should follow to promote a greater team effort to promote student learning in all classrooms of the school?** Be specific in your answer, being sure to include who should be included in your effort to create a greater team effort.

Dispositions Assessment Question #8

You are about to begin your second year of teaching and you have begun to think about what your major purpose for being a teacher should be and how that purpose would affect your overall activities as a teacher. **Describe what you decide about your purpose for being a teacher.** You have also been asked to be the director of a program to get some parents more involved in the daily teaching activities as aides or assistants in the classrooms of all teachers in your school building. **How do you think this responsibility would fit your determined “purpose for being a teacher”?** Tell what you decide to do with this request to take responsibility outside the classroom.
Dispositions Assessment Question #9

To be a servant-leader there are certain character traits and beliefs about others that are necessary to command the following of other teachers. What do you believe those character traits should be and what attitudes should the servant-leader have about others. List those character traits and the necessary attitudes about others for the servant-leader. Then discuss why those traits and that attitude about others are so important for the servant-leader’s success in creating a community of learners in a school.