

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council on Graduate Studies

**FROM:** Diane H. Jackman, Dean  
College of Education and Professional Studies

**DATE:** April 14, 2017

**RE:** Executive Action Items

The following request was received from the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education. I concur with the change and ask that the revision be made by executive action.

**Requested Changes:** to add an online mode of delivery to the Master of Science in Education in Elementary Education. The requested effective date is Fall 2017.

**Catalog Copy:** The online graduate curriculum encompasses comprehensive content knowledge and promotes the use of critical thinking and problem solving to cultivate teacher-researchers who are empowered to serve as leaders in the profession. Faculty members challenge students to bridge the gap between theory and practice as they develop the skills required for ethical and effective collaboration and communication within the local school community and a culturally diverse, technologically advanced global environment. While we deliver an online MSED in Elementary Education, some hybrid and traditional courses are optional.

**Rationale for Changes:** The program has long been offered face-to-face, however students are seeking more flexibility towards how courses are offered/completed. Many students who need and desire to further their education are not able to attend traditional class due to distance or other constraints. Moving to an online delivery option allows us to meet the demand for teachers to further their education and gives us the opportunity to stretch our program into areas of the state that do not have easy access to a university for face to face coursework. The online delivery of the program will not change any course content and the integrity of the program will be maintained. All online courses within the program will be taught by faculty who have completed the required training as established by EIU.

cc: Dr. Okrasinski