from the graduates:

On Professional Accreditation

**Sara Turner**
Middle School Math Teacher, Garland Independent School District, TX
*Emporia State University*

**Tobias McGill**
Social Studies Teacher, Blanchet High School, Seattle, WA
*Seattle University*

**Ed James**
Principal, Graham Hill Elementary, Seattle School District, WA

**Khandice Love**
Social Studies Teacher, Westview High School, Beaverton, OR
*Portland State University*

**Lesianne Craft**
7th Grade Math Teacher, Stucky Middle School, Wichita, KS
*Wichita State University*

**Catherine Hurray**
4th Grade Teacher, Whitehall Elementary, Anderson, SC
*Anderson University*

**Matthew Lafko**
Assistant Principal, Northwest Elementary School, Lexington, NC
*Emporia State University*

**Charlotte Miller**
Kindergarten Teacher, Catoma Elementary, Montgomery, AL
*Faulkner University*
Second day of school!
It is a little crazy, but that is because it is middle school.

Yesterday we played the *Race to 21* game at the end of class. I thought that we would play it for most of the semester and then eventually someone would figure it out. Five of my six classes figured out how to beat me and by the end of class we were putting their strategies into words and assigning an impromptu homework assignment. They are really smart and they don’t even know it.

Today we reviewed order of operations in both classes and played a game called *Pass the Answer*. Thanks for all the ideas you taught us.

The [students] are all pretty good. I have a few that are a challenge. It is not the defiant attitudes or anything; it is more like they just have a hard time sitting still.

I am really fortunate, with the shortage of teachers here, out of 18 new teachers, I am the only one with a degree in education. ESU really prepares you for situations like these, where the alternative plans do not. While the [teachers from alternative plans] talked about the terrible day they had, I talked about how wonderful my classes are.

- Sara Turner, Middle School Math Teacher, Garland Independent School District, TX

Emporia State University Graduate
Principals want leaders in the classroom who give students the tools they need to be successful, and who are role models. Graduates of Seattle University’s Master in Teaching are exemplary, and I’ve hired many.

- Ed James, Principal, Graham Hill Elementary, Seattle School District, WA
The training I received from Wichita State University prepared me for the classroom well beyond what I ever thought was possible. My classroom placements during my pre-student teaching and student teaching were excellent experiences that truly prepared me for my own classroom. I am so proud to tell people that I graduated from the College of Education at WSU.

- Leslianne Craft, 7th Grade Math Teacher, Stucky Middle School, Wichita, KS

Winner of Kansas Horizon Award
Distinguished Classroom Teacher Award for First Year Teachers

Leslianne Craft
7th Grade Math Teacher, Stucky Middle School, Wichita, KS
Wichita State University Graduate
I would like to take a moment and talk about my experience with Emporia State and the online MS Program in School Leadership. I cannot put into words the satisfaction and positive sense of accomplishment I received in completing this program. The faculty and support staff are absolutely top notch. I simply cannot find any other way to describe them. The professors I had were overwhelmingly knowledgeable of their content area and challenged me to prove my knowledge and mastery of the course subject matter. Each day I am presented with a situation as an Assistant Principal, I draw on my knowledge gained through the School Leadership program at Emporia.

However, the most outstanding feature of the program at Emporia was the faculty and staff willingness and ability to see me as a true adult distance learner. I felt my professors and support personnel “truly” cared about me as an individual. There is something very special taking place at Emporia State University and I am very thankful I was a part of it.

- Matthew Lafko, Assistant Principal,
  Northwest Elementary School, Lexington, NC

Matthew Lafko
Assistant Principal,
Northwest Elementary School, Lexington, NC
Emporia State University Graduate

NCATE
The Standard of Excellence in Teacher Preparation
Seattle University did wonders for me. The Master in Teaching program is very strong! It effectively prepared me with tools to teach and develop educated, ethical, and active citizens! I could write a lengthy book on my love of teaching, my students, and all that Seattle University did to help me in my calling.

- Tobias McGill, Social Studies Teacher, Blanchet High School, Seattle, WA
As an African American student, I experienced many barriers in my early years in urban schools. Because of these experiences, I decided to pursue a career in teaching. Portland State University became my college of choice because its principles aligned with my values of responsible citizenship and the necessity of a high quality education for all students. The exemplary programs at Portland State University’s Graduate School of Education inspire students and alumni to excel in our careers. I now help students change their lives through the power of education.

- Khandice Love, Social Studies Teacher, Westview High School, Beaverton, OR
The teacher preparation that I received at Anderson University enabled me to become a successful teacher. The program is focused on meeting the needs of all students by differentiating types of instruction. As a fourth grade teacher, I have to use these practices every day to accommodate the types of learners in my classroom.

- Catherine Hurray, 4th Grade Teacher, Whitehall Elementary, Anderson, SC
Faulkner University helped to prepare me to be ready for anything that I encountered in my first year of teaching and the rest of my career. During my first year of teaching I have felt extremely well prepared. My students’ state test scores were excellent at mid-year. I have been very pleased with my evaluation scores showing many areas of strength; the evaluations indicate that I ‘demonstrate excellence’ in teaching. I am very proud that Faulkner University recently attained NCATE accreditation. This prestigious title gives evidence that the education which we receive here at Faulkner University is second to none.

- Charlotte Miller, Kindergarten Teacher, Catoma Elementary, Montgomery, AL