

Project ACROSS

*Alternative Certification Routes with
On-going Support Systems*



101 Pleasant Street
Concord NH 03301-3860
Telephone: (603) 271-3494
Fax: (603) 271-1953

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Beginning January 2003, new teachers statewide seeking alternative certification will be required to participate in a three year program called Project ACROSS (Alternative Certification Routes with On-going Support Systems). New teacher candidates are matched with mentors for the duration of the program. Both candidates and mentors are trained and both agree to enter into the Project ACROSS agreement. Project ACROSS is being implemented for the following reasons:

- ❖ To increase teacher retention rates; qualified teachers will be placed in critical shortage areas; new teachers will transition to the classroom atmosphere easier and with greater confidence.
- ❖ To advise new teachers in teaching strategies and how to communicate with their students.
- ❖ To provide the state of New Hampshire with better qualified, more confident and competent teachers.
- ❖ To provide a tested method of training new teachers that can be incorporated into the instruction of new educators.

Project ACROSS will provide a Summer Institute, follow-up seminars and site-based mentoring. The Program's Director is **Tondy Higginbotham** of the Department of Education, the Program's Coordinators are **Susan Villani**, Learning Innovations (LI) and **Mark Joyce** Executive Director of NH School Administrators' Association (NHSAA). Come visit us **soon** at <http://www.ed.state.nh.us> and look for the **Project ACROSS** link.

Mentor Training: January 14, 2003 (Courtyard by Marriott--February 12-13, 2003 (Cat'n Fiddle) in Concord

Summer Institute: August 18-22,2003 (Grand Summit)