# Appendix J Reflections

Reflection in teaching is critical because the events of teaching and one’s reflection of those activities impact future teaching, and one’s planning for activities and assessments. Candidates are required to write a weekly reflection that includes a reflective response for at least one lesson taught during the week (once candidate begins teaching) AND reflect about broader aspects of teaching not directly related to a lesson.

**Consider the questions below when reflecting on a lesson:**

* Were the students engaged in this lesson? If not, why?
* Did you change your teaching plans? Why?
* What were the effects on the lesson?
* Did you achieve your objective(s)?
* What skills or knowledge did the learners acquire?
* How do you know?
* Were there students who did not meet the objective(s)?
* How will you help those students who did not previously master the skills or knowledge?
* What were the strengths of the lesson?
* What would you do differently next time?
* What would you do differently for students who are very different from the students you taught for this lesson (i.e. at-risk students, gifted students, etc.)?

**Consider the questions below when reflecting on broader aspects of teaching:**

* What did I discover this week?
* What will I change or do differently next week?
* What assistance do I need at this time?
* The best part about this week of student teaching was …
* I learned \_\_\_\_ and I will use it in the future.
* Questions I still have …
* What I learned this week about teaching as a profession …
* What I learned this week about children …
* I think I want to teach \_\_\_\_ grade/subject because …
* My view of school has changed because … OR My perception of inner-city schools has changed …
* My perception of curriculum has changed because …
* Students who are transitional …
* Your thoughts on child abuse and neglect after hearing the legal issues presentation and your experiences in the school.
* What is the impact of school schedule changes due to fire alarm, assemble, picture day, daylight savings time…?