

**MREA Annual Conference**  
**“Great Beginnings: When Learning Starts Early, Inspires  
and Applies”**

Brainerd, Minnesota  
November 15-17, 2015

***Career Changers: Teacher Preparation and Licensure  
Programs***

**Graduate Teaching Licensure (GTL) Program**  
**The College of St. Scholastica**

**Duluth, St. Paul, St. Cloud**



# *GTL: Meeting the Need for Teachers in MN*

## Presentors:

- **Jo Olsen, Ed.D. - Dean of the School of Education**
  - The College of St. Scholastica
  - Duluth, St. Paul, and St. Cloud
  
- **Teresa Joyal - Science Teacher & Graduate Teaching Licensure (GTL) Program Alum**
  - Willow River ISD #577
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Biology
  - 11/12 Biology of Nature
  - 11/12 College in the Schools General Biology




# The College of St. Scholastica Graduate Teaching Licensure (GTL) Program Overview

- **Program Description and Format**
  - Began in 2004 – Prepared nearly 500 teachers
  - Designed for working adults with baccalaureate degree or seeking another endorsement
  - Accelerated 8 week terms
  - Hybrid Delivery – Combination of Online/Onsite Classes w/4 onsite Fri. PM or Sat. sessions
  - Offered at Duluth, St. Paul and St. Cloud sites
  - Early and on-going Field placements
  - Typically 18-24 months to complete
  - Strong Employer Survey Results
- Licensure Areas: Elementary, Middle/Secondary
- Optional Master's Degree Completion
- Focus of Research Courses: Action Research applied to their teaching setting



# Looking Back after First Year of Teaching: GTL Alum's Perspective

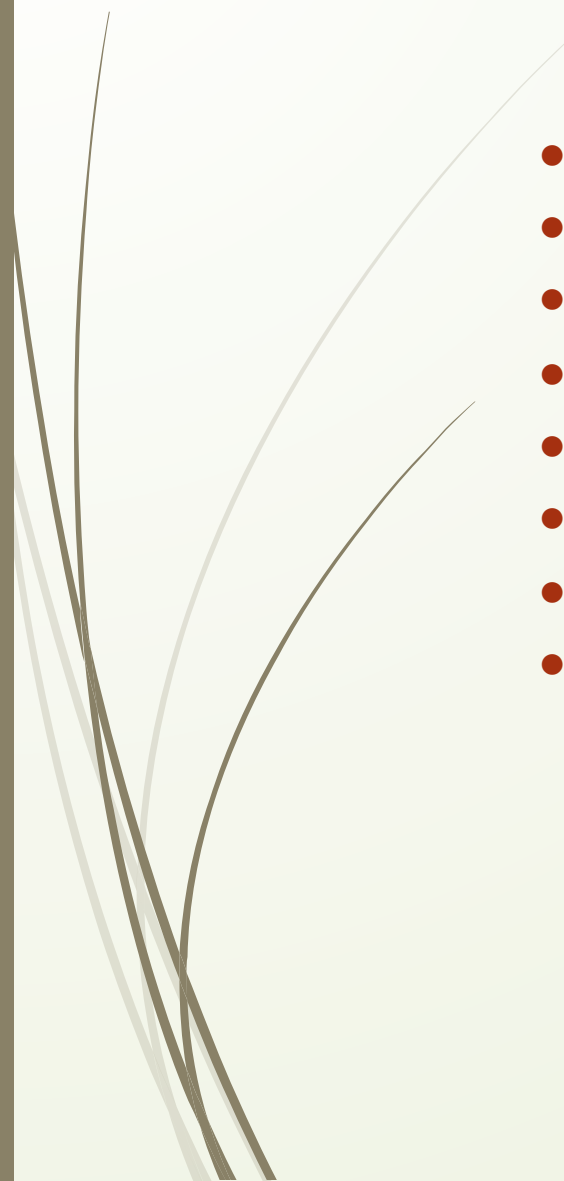
Teresa Joyal  
Science Teacher at Willow River ISD #577


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- Prior Education and Background-Undergraduate and Graduate
  - Why the GTL Program – Considerations
  - Benefits Received from the Program
  - Reading in Content Area; Differentiated Instruction; Universal



# Alum's Perspective Continued: Ongoing Benefits

## GTL Program Design & Cohort Support

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- Preparation for Collaboration with Colleagues
  - PLC's
  - Reading in Content Area
  - Assistance with Differentiated Instruction
  - Good Knowledge of Online Learning Management Systems
  - Expecting the Unexpected and always have a backup plan
  - Know your students
  - Continuing Professional Dialogue and Support (Cohort)
    - Assisting each other with lesson plan, classroom management and finding positions.



# Partnership Opportunities to Address Teacher Shortage Q & A

## Current Efforts

- Elem. Ed. Degree Completion Program in St. Paul
- NSF grant to fund math and science teachers - submitted in July
- GTL in 3 locations: Duluth, St. Paul & St. Cloud
- Online Graduate level Academic Behavioral Strategist (2<sup>nd</sup> license) being developed

## Future Partnership Opportunities - Discussion

Grant Funding

Possibilities: El.Ed. Degree Completion & GTL Cohorts at additional sites

## Program Contact Information

Graduate Teaching Licensure – Program Director

- Chery Takkunen, Ph.D. [ctakkune@css.edu](mailto:ctakkune@css.edu)

School of Education - Dean

- Jo Olsen, Ed.D. [jolsen@css.edu](mailto:jolsen@css.edu)

<http://www.css.edu/graduate/masters-doctoral-and-professional-programs/areas-of-study/graduate-teaching-licensure.html>