College of Education Updates

- New Middle Grades undergraduate major (begins Fall 2016)
  - This new major is specifically designed for individuals who want to teach grades 5 to 8. Individuals will select 2 subject areas (chosen from language arts, math, science, and social science) and take at 6 courses in each area along with education courses.

- New Special Education undergraduate major (began Fall 2015)
  - This new major is specifically designed for individuals that want to teach special education (Kindergarten to grade 12).

- New Special Education endorsement option (begins Fall 2016).
  - This is for individuals seeking a teaching license in another field who want to add the credential to be able to teach special education. The grade range would reflect the range of their teaching license.

- Grade ranges for Elementary and Middle grades will shift as of Feb 2018.
  - Though this doesn’t take effect for a few years, individuals in our current program will be prepared for the new grade ranges. Elementary grade range will become grades 1-6 and middle grades will be grades 5-8. This also means that secondary education will be limited to grades 9-12.

- Grade ranges for Early Childhood will shift as of Sept 2019.
  - The new range for Early Childhood will be birth to grade 2.

- edTPA requirement (begins Fall 2015)
  - This is a new Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requirement that is a portfolio assessment done during student teaching. It will be required for every individual doing their student teaching Fall 2015 and later (regardless of when they began the program).