

# University of Mary Washington

## College of Education

Dean's Report

Submitted by: Pete Kelly

February 1, 2022

1. After nearly five years of renovation, the Ribbon Cutting event for Seacobeck Hall occurred on Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> presided over by President Paino and the Board of Visitors. The Virginia Secretary of Education, Aimee Rogstad Guidera provided remarks. If you have not been in the building, please come see it. It is remarkable and could not come at a better time for our work in teacher preparation. Virginia has had a serious teacher shortage for many years which has been exacerbated by the pandemic and the politicization of the profession. Seacobeck should be a powerful lever for student recruitment.
2. We have 19 high school students registered for the Teachers for Tomorrow Summer Institute that is a part of the Summer Enrichment Program. Teachers for Tomorrow is a high school curriculum for students who want to be teachers. We will have participants from 10+ different school divisions and from 15 different high schools. We expect this will be an important recruiting opportunity for the College of Education, and for Mary Washington.
3. Our Pathways to Excellence (PTE) program is continuing to develop capacity for mentorship within the Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, and Stafford schools. These trained mentors, or our "clinical faculty" serve as mentors to COE students completing internships, and also provide mentorship for teachers in their first two years of teaching. Evidence suggests good mentorship helps improve teacher retention. Our PTE will be collaborating on mentorship training with MentorVA and George Mason University beginning this summer.