SPRING BRANCH ISD
Student Teaching Q & A’s

1. **Where Spring Branch?**
The Memorial/Spring Branch region and Spring Branch Independent School District encompasses about 44 square miles of wooded suburbs and business districts west of downtown Houston. It is located along Interstate 10, also known as the Katy Freeway. Approximately 188,000 residents live in the west Houston district.

Spring Branch ISD has an enrollment of more than 35,000 students and operates 26 traditional elementary schools, seven regular middle schools, four traditional high schools and four special campuses. In addition, the district operates two public charter schools and an International Baccalaureate program.

Spring Branch ISD follows a small neighborhood school concept where attendance areas have been established for each individual school. Students attend the schools from Pre-kindergarten through high school in the attendance area in which they live.

2. **Who can student teach in Spring Branch ISD?**
Student teachers at both the elementary and the secondary level may student teach in Houston. There is a high need for secondary teachers and special education teachers. *Dual majors (ELED/SPED) are not eligible to student teach in Spring Branch during the fall semester as there is not enough weeks to complete the required hours for certification.*

3. **Where would I live?**
You are responsible for your own living arrangements but Spring Branch ISD has a company that can assist you in finding a safe, affordable apartment. Many times UNL student teachers room together to help offset costs. You do not have to use the placement company if you have other living arrangements. Spring Branch has also committed to assisting students with making housing arrangements close to the schools in which they will be student teaching.

4. **When would I start?**
The Spring Branch fall semester begins on August 22 with students. You will be required to attend an orientation tentatively scheduled on Friday, August 12th, so please plan accordingly.

5. **What kind of support can I expect during my student teaching semester at Spring Branch ISD?**
The Spring Branch ISD is committed to making your student teaching semester an outstanding experience. Human Resources is on campus during the Career Fair to meet you and work with you individually.
The University supervisor for our student teachers will be a resource for questions regarding the district as well as what to do for fun in the Houston area. Dr. Sara Skretta, Director of Professional Experiences, is also a resource to assist you in any way you might need.

6. **How will I know if I’m accepted to student teach in Spring Branch ISD?**
The Office of Field Experiences will notify you mid-March if you have been accepted to student teach in Spring Branch.

7. **Will I be able to attend UNL graduation?**
Student teachers will complete the 16-week assignment on Friday, December 2, 2016. Graduation is scheduled on December 17th.

8. **Can I contact someone at Spring Branch ISD if I have questions?**
Dr. Skretta ([sskretta2@unl.edu](mailto:sskretta2@unl.edu)) has contact information for students who are interested in learning more about Spring Branch ISD and all it has to offers.