Development of the Portfolio

What is a Portfolio?

- A portfolio is a permanent record of meaningful and formative student experiences. Portfolios offer meaningful opportunities for self-analysis and assessment. They also represent a formal and public declaration of personal beliefs about effective teaching and enable beginning teachers to document and reflect on the significant stages in their professional development (Nerenz, 1996).

Why Develop a Portfolio?

- Besides providing opportunities for self-analysis and assessment, portfolios integrate student experiences, provide a permanent record of accomplishments, and aid in the job search.

What should be Included in a Portfolio?

- Portfolios should include documentation of the student's knowledge base. Such evidence from primary sources in the portfolio will demonstrate the student's knowledge of content standards as found in the Professional Standards for Michigan Teachers document found at [www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SBE_approved_PSMT_May_13_2008+coverpg_258601_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SBE_approved_PSMT_May_13_2008+coverpg_258601_7.doc).
- As part of their portfolio development process beginning student teachers should also be aware of, and begin to meet, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards ([www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)). It is important that your portfolio show ways you can link your practice to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.