

# Conceptual Framework

## (June 2011)

The SMWC Teacher Education Program is built on a foundation of relevant developmental theories that support a theoretical framework to prepare **competent, caring, and professional** educators. This conceptual framework provides the structure for curriculum development and the unit assessment system.

### **COMPETENT** teachers:

- know their subject matter
- understand how students learn
- know how to assess students' strengths and needs
- design and deliver effective instruction
- use a variety of instructional strategies
- modify instructional methods to address the needs and rights of diverse learners
- use technology to support teaching and learning
- design effective learning environments
- use multiple measures to evaluate student performance
- teach principles and practices of social justice

### **CARING** teachers:

- take an interest in the intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual growth of their students
- value individual differences and are committed to culturally responsive teaching
- embed social, moral, and ethical perspectives in their teaching
- promote the development of motivation and students' knowledge of self
- promote social justice and environmental responsibility

### **PROFESSIONAL** teachers:

- understand that learning is a shared responsibility
- communicate effectively with parents, students, colleagues, and the larger community
- incorporate community resources into instruction
- demonstrative impact on student achievement
- participate in professional organizations