

Philosophy Of Education

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Purpose of Teaching

Most people believe that teaching is purely academic and teachers become what they are because they want their students to succeed. However, I would argue that those people are wrong, they are only seeing half of the story. There are 3 important purposes of teaching: teaching students about becoming better citizens, academic achievement, and building lifelong skills. The idea behind teaching is to empower students to embrace learning and to encourage them to grow into better people.

I know my students will not only learn the curriculum, but also how to be good citizens by teaching kindness, respect, love, commitment, responsibility, and perseverance in my classroom. Students learn many skills and values outside of academics by working in the classroom. For example, they learn how to be a part of a team and a community while learning what unique characteristics they can bring. They also learn that working hard and applying themselves will always be rewarded; by not putting in all of their efforts they are only hurting themselves. They learn about perseverance and how to grow from failure, how to accept responsibility, and the knowledge they need for life skills. They will use math to pay taxes or budget. Social studies will help students to understand the community, science skills will be used to cook, and writing and reading to complete tasks at work.

There are also a variety of principals that shape how teachers work efficiently. These principals will be crucial in guiding me as a teacher. They will learn communication skills through group work, centers, and partner sharing in an effort to build a team mindset in the classroom and create a caring environment. For myself, working with students to inspire them to grow and learn is so important but I would argue that teaching them good morals and work ethic

is even more important. Teachers have the most important job because we are shaping the future minds of the world.

Teaching brings so much joy to teachers; it is fun to help a student become a person and be the one to empower them to make a difference for our students. Students have a great influence on one another and I desire to teach my class values for love, respect, and inclusion. It is important to engage students to grow and enjoy class while also having the privilege of teaching them how to be a part of a community and how to respect others. In addition, students in my classroom will have class time once a week set aside just to write a short paragraph note to another student to encourage them about something and re-affirm their value.

Philosophies

All students can learn and succeed but more importantly, each student has a unique ability and I cannot wait to help my students discover their true passions and potential. I believe that with the enthusiasm and support of a good teacher, a student can achieve anything that they want to. Behind every great mind, there is an amazing teacher.

I am passionate about showing students the joy of making a difference and how to be better people, and also about helping my students succeed regardless of how many times they fall first. All students have learning preferences and learn most efficiently through different types of work; that is why it's so important for teachers to have a variety of different teaching and assessment styles throughout the year so that all students have the opportunity to succeed. Students who have supported development in early years progress better throughout their lives.

Obviously, everyone knows that a teacher's responsibility is to encourage growth in their student's mindset. I am not discounting this as important as I believe it is essential to provide

every child with the proper education to be successful and intelligent to feel prepared for life after school. Along with teaching academics, teachers assess if students can effectively complete a task with focus and perseverance. Teachers also instill confidence in their students by equipping them with the ability to self-evaluate and push themselves to grow and learn. Even after school, you never stop learning because the human brain develops all of our lives so learning skills will always be relevant.

In my classroom, I will constantly be asking my students to survey their work ethic because I believe there is always room for improvement and the harder they work, the more successful they will become. It brings students joy and self-confidence to receive a good grade, more importantly though, it shows their growth and development. It proves their ability to learn better when they learn to apply themselves to their assignments. Students should also learn life skills in the classroom to equip them for the rest of their lives. For one, all students have the right and ability to learn. No matter where a student is cognitively when they begin learning, they can improve their level of learning.

There is always more for students to learn and when pushed properly by their teachers to apply themselves, they will always be learning. For example, if a child in my early education class has trouble reading and writing then I would take small steps with them. First, we could practice learning small sight words and spelling them and then they will soon be able to recognize those words just by seeing them and eventually, after practicing together, they will repeat writing them until they can write them by memorization. It may take some students longer to learn than it takes others but a good teacher never gives up on their students because the moment a teacher stops finding teaching strategies for their student, the student will notice and

soon lose the desire to learn and grow. Students need to know that they have a teacher who will fight for their education, no matter how much they struggle. Secondly, every student brings strength and experiences to the classroom, we all work collaboratively to learn.

All students were raised differently by their guardians and have different experiences growing up in different environments wherever they are from. Running an efficient learning environment is learning to create cohesive learning, classroom discussion, hands-on learning, and meaningful examples for the students. As a teacher, it will be my job to make students aware that their experiences and values are unique and important. Students should know that they are all different but our class will efficiently work together as one. Collaboration in the classroom and having a safe learning environment will be a priority in my classroom to foster a place where students feel they can share their experiences and be unique but still feel accepted and valued. Responsive environments engage in healthy learning.

To have a culturally responsive environment, I will need to know my students well and provide opportunities to engage in learning experiences and understand how they can apply those experiences and skills in everyday life. Learning will be meaningful to my students because I will take time during class to get to know them and help them get to know one another. For example, students could write essays about topics of their choosing so that they can be passionate about what they are writing. Or, when teaching math, I could make the problems relate to sports or apply other things that the students enjoy. A responsive learning environment will adapt to student's individual needs and also promote collaboration with the class as a whole. Next, the purposeful assessment affects learning for students and for teachers too.

Students work well under pressure and assessment is a critical part of learning. Assessing and evaluating students is crucial for the teacher's self-reflection in order to learn how to improve their teaching. It is also important to track the student's progress and understanding of class material. By evaluating students, teachers can work with their parents more effectively to set upcoming goals and learning checkpoints. It is so important for students to always have a goal to work up to so that they always improve their work ethic and learn to work harder, students should always put in 100% effort -teachers should too! It is one thing for students to understand a topic but it is another thing in and of itself to truly learn something.

To confirm that a student has truly learned something, the teacher should assess how well the student can teach the topic to a struggling peer. Students should thoroughly know the topic after studying what we discussed in class so that they are able to explain to another classmate who may be struggling. Learning must be personalized so students can own what they have learned and feel confident in the information. When a student deeply learns something, it is self-directed and challenging. They should be able to fully explain the topic by putting the information in their own words and being able to share it with someone else instead of regurgitating the information that their teacher told them.

The best way for students to effectively learn is through effective teaching. For example, in-class discussions, hands-on activities, real-life experiences, and group work. For a student completely understand something, they need to practice it for themselves and be able to create their own examples in a realistic context. When I picture students learning in my future classroom, it looks like a classroom full of students who are excited to learn and looking forward to class every day. I will run my classroom for the students to have input on lessons and

classwork. I want my students to know they can trust me and each other but most of all I want them to know that learning is fun!

My classroom will be an environment where students can learn by asking questions and having open discussions together about our lesson topics. They will be engaged through activities and games and they will eventually learn to create their own games that go along with our lessons. My students will learn that education is diverse and know that everyone learns differently and I will also assess them in that manner so that students can present their knowledge about the topic in inventive and fun ways that are personal to their learning style. My students will be interacting with one another and working in groups as often as possible to share ideas and learn from other students' ideas on the topic at hand. I will share the lesson with my class and allow them to share with one another openly. My role will be to facilitate conversations between the students about our lessons while learning about communication with one another and to answer their questions.

My role as the teacher will be to ensure students understand the curriculum and clarify their questions but to encourage them to help one another before asking me about them. That way, students will be challenged in their knowledge and their self-esteem will grow when their ideas are affirmed by one another. As a teacher, I will make the classroom fun with activities to cultivate an exciting and new learning experience for them. I will teach in a student-focused classroom for many reasons, the most important one being that it builds their independence. Joyful learning and a purposeful challenge create an incredible place for students to thrive. Learning should be engaging and fun for students so that they can be joyful and excited to be challenged while learning.

In a student-centered classroom, they understand what they are learning and I will emphasize the importance of why they are learning it. Students who have personalized goals and learning strategies are more likely to work at their own pace and have a higher success rate. I want my classroom to be blended, individual, and group work so that students have a variety of learning strategies at their disposal and I can consider the ways that are most beneficial for them.

Students enjoy a student-focused classroom more because it allows them to work at their own pace and explore their own interests, abilities, and learning strategies that work best for them. When students do most of the work and communicate with one another, they are more confident in their voice and ideas and their work skills too. As a teacher, I will guide students learning but allow them to discuss and work on their own time with a due date to learn time management.

Also, in a student-based classroom, there are multiple different forms of assessment and feedback which allows students to personalize their learning and gain more feedback from one another. When it comes to learning, all students learn differently so there must be variation in lesson plans for students to feel confident in their ability to learn the class material regardless of the easiest method for them to use. Also, I will spend more time working with my students in a conversation based setting so that students can fully expand their knowledge and learn from one another simultaneously. Students should also be studying efficiency, fluency, and most importantly, they should be investing in their learning.

I will ensure that in my classroom, students know the value of their learning so that they can later appreciate the life skills that they were taught by their teachers. The effects of peers in a student's learning are also significantly large and students tend to have a reputation during

adolescence, students' reputations should be more focused on academic success. There are many disengaged students in classroom learning who give up on challenging tasks by looking for distractions, these students could easily be successful if their teachers were more situationally aware. Teachers should use scaffolding as a tool in their classroom to keep their students cognitively engaged and this way, students can reflect on their own learning experiences. Teachers should also prompt their students to use specific knowledge during self-explanations and monitor their specific thinking.

Students should be pushed to gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge they learn in the classroom and more importantly, how to apply that knowledge outside of the classroom. I will also implement a social constructivist approach to learning because it encourages individual conceptual thought processes. Students who feel challenged in school to think more abstractly and individually learn to understand the connection between their learned knowledge and how it applies to everything that they will do later. In my classroom, just like John suggested, I will encourage my students to follow up on questions after their answers to encourage deeper thought processes. Critical thinking teaches discipline to students and shows them how to apply their skills to a life goal through reasoning and experience.

I will also be a role model for my class by sharing the love of Christ with them through my actions. I want my students to know that they can come to me when they need anything-classroom help or home life and we will enforce respect and compassion in my classroom. I want my students to be able to trust me and one another so they can focus on learning while they are in the classroom and feel safe together. I am becoming a teacher not only because I want my students to succeed academically but more so because teachers have the most influence on a

student. It will be my job to give all students a fair chance to get the education they deserve but I am more excited about teaching my students how to be people in life after school.

I want my students to know what my values are simply by being in my class. I will demonstrate my values to teach my students important values that will apply for their entire lives. For example, I will keep a close eye on my students during tests, quizzes, and independent learning and ensure that they learn integrity by doing their own work. I also want my students to learn about respect and responsibility so they understand the value of being prepared and being kind to build relationships with others.

Meeting The Needs Of Diverse Learners

Labeling students with physical or learning disabilities make academics more difficult because students feel less capable of understanding the class material and may require extra motivation. In my classroom, I will ensure a way for every student to be included and feel valued and confident in their work. Students at a young age are deeply impacted by their social life and their peers, social awareness as a teacher will be imperative to ensure that all students are included.

Teachers should be better equipped in the classroom to empower all of their students, especially the ones who feel left out due to a learning disability. John Hattie writes that there should be checklists during the lesson for students to assess how well the students are learning the class material. Teachers need to pay more attention to evidence about the effect that we have on our students and make adjustments accordingly. There are many attractive features which motivate me to be a teacher but the most obvious one is my love for my students. I obviously don't have students in my classroom yet but my deepest desire is for my future students to have a

passion for learning and to come to class excited to do inspiring activities to push them to love learning.

Secondly, I want the love I have for my students to evidently be the love of Christ pouring into them. It is important to me for my students to see that although I may not be able to explicitly tell them in a public school, I am a believer. I want them to see the love of Christ through me and be inspired to love one another in the same way. Respect and care for everyone will be included in my classroom daily and it will be a joyous place to be because of the relationships being built within my class. They will be able to rely on one another for support and rely on me for learning and growth, it will be a safe environment for new ideas, thoughts, and feelings. Most importantly, it will be a space for thinking that is “outside of the box” and different from their past experiences in education. My classroom will foster growth through respect, kindness, commitment, perseverance and I will teach exceptional learners in love.

All students have unique gifts and characteristics but that is a positive thing because we all need to be good at different things in order to help others as they may be struggling in that area. A teacher-focused classroom encourages diversity in learning and group dynamics within the school. I also want my students to feel empowered because of their own effort and work within the classroom. Because my students will be working individually and I will just be guiding them, they will feel more accomplished when they receive a good grade in my course subject. It is important to place the responsibility of learning into the students’ hands so that they feel more accountable for their work in the classroom and more importantly, in their future. It is the most efficient way to prepare students for future problem solving and learning. I will provide support in my student-centered learning classroom as often as I can.

Students are also unique in how they demonstrate their learning; some students don't test well and others would rather write an essay than do a creative project. For this reason, I will integrate technology and use a variety of different resources to assess my students' learning. For example, at the end of units where I have the freedom to choose the type of assessment they will have, my students will have many choices for how they would like to demonstrate their learning. After some units, students will get to choose between writing a summary essay or making a final art project that shows their individual takeaways. At the end of other units, my students will get to choose between a written test or an oral test one-on-one during class. These are just some of the many ways that I will make assessments diverse and personal in my class.

Classroom Management

John Hattie's philosophy on visible learning is a social constructivist approach; it ensures teachers and students are aware of the balance between surface knowledge, deeper understandings, and conceptual learning as teachers prepare their lessons and students learn. Most of the education focuses on surface learning, but John explains why it is crucial for students to have a deeper understanding to develop their thinking skills. Teachers cannot know how insightful their students are if they solely grade them on their ability to do well on tests and complete their homework.

Implementing peer tutoring and group work in the classroom and helps to hold students accountable for their learning and improves their cooperation and communication skills. As John said, it is crucial to teach critical thinking in the classroom because it is a skill that students will need for the rest of their lives when making decisions and problem-solving. Additionally, critical

thinking encourages conversations and cooperation with the other students in the classroom and further creates communication skills.

At the start of the school year, the students and I will work together to develop classroom rules. This is how students will be held responsible for knowing their rules and setting their own behavior standards. If they fail to listen to the rules, I know they are realistic because they helped me create them. The rules will be posted at the front of the classroom on a “classroom contract” to provide a classroom wall where students will always be able to look and see the expectations that we set for classroom behavior.

Because I am focusing so much on having a classroom community, I will have a class system for rewarding my students. For example, if the students all follow directions and nobody needs disciplined for an entire day, then the class will get a link added to their link chain. At the end of the month, if they have 20 links or more then the class will get a reward of their choice- a pizza party, candy, etc. Students being rewarded as a group will maintain classroom accountability and encouragement for each individual student because they all have to work together to receive their reward.

However, all students will not receive punishment for one student’s misbehavior. When a student misbehaves in class, I will use it as a learning opportunity for that student; punishment will be one-on-one between me and the student because calling the student out in class may reinforce their desired attention and it will distract other students from their learning. Students will be given time to correct their misbehavior, they will get a warning the first time and after that, they will be disciplined and if the behavior continues then they will be sent to the principal.

Conclusion

My classroom will focus on student-based learning through group projects and partner work with unique assessments for each individual. Students will be held to high standards when it comes to the way they treat one another and how they respect me and their peers. I plan to teach in a classroom that is inclusive to all students regardless of their learning abilities, gender, race, or background. My students will be excited to learn and feel confident in their academic abilities. By implementing technology and other resources in my classroom, my students will learn important life skills such as communication, collaboration, problem-solving, critical thinking, and leadership.

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