

My Teaching Philosophy

When a student walks into the doors of my classroom, they will notice it's a place where learning is the central focus. They will quickly learn that my responsibilities as their teacher are to inspire them to be lifelong learners, critical thinkers, moral citizens within their community, and adapt positive social skills. An effective educator teaches all of these things and more. Educators yearn to make a difference in the lives of their students. We are taught to be goal oriented and make our mission known to our students, parents, and community.

As an educator, I have developed a series of beliefs that benefit all learners:

- **I believe in creating a positive learning environment.** Learning is about exploration, researching, and promoting open inquiry so that students may become critical thinkers. Learning goes beyond studying a text book. Students will hear positive reinforcement in my classroom and be encouraged to brainstorm their ideas with their fellow classmates and will identify that learning develops through making mistakes.
- **I believe it's my duty to be a moral compass to all students.** Morals in today's world seem to be disappearing. I will be a person of my word; I will do what I say I will do. I will treat all students with respect and model tolerance. I will also model positive social skills by being kind, considerate and thoughtful to those around me. I will encourage open discussions in my classroom about what it means to be a friend. We will talk about how we feel when others hurt us, and how we feel when others are kind. When students feel safe and accepted, they are more equipped to learn.
- **I believe that I must help students find their special gift so we can take the proper steps to develop it.** I want to take the time to help students find their hidden gifts or enhance gifts already known. I welcome the opportunity in the classroom for my students to share their talents with us. For example, if I have a student who enjoys drawing, I will give them opportunities to share their artwork, and even research ways (perhaps a conference with the art teacher) how I may help nurture my student's talent within the classroom setting.
- **I believe parents and the community play a vital role in the education of our young children.** Parents will know what is going on in my classroom. I will welcome parents to participate in our activities, especially families from diverse cultures who can share with our class about their culture. I will contact parents frequently giving them relevant updates, including concerns I may have about their child. It's important for parents to hear the positive steps their child is taking so they can encourage them to keep up the good work. Arranging visits from leaders in the community to come and speak to our class keeps the students informed about what's going on within their community. Students need to be aware of current situations and be given opportunities to brainstorm ways they can contribute on making their community a better place.