

# Teaching Philosophy

## ***I believe education is collaborative***

Education requires team work between teachers, students, the school, and the community. This relationship is constantly interdependent and student learning requires a collaboration among the school, family, and community. As a teacher it is my job to create strong relationships with students and their families. It is important for me to get to know my students and their needs in order to support them. Collaboration with other colleagues is essential for teachers to be successful. It is important to collaborate with colleagues to share ideas and insight on student learning as well as effective instructional practices and management techniques. Teachers must also utilize the community knowledge and resources to make learning more authentic.

## ***I believe knowledge and preparation creates powerful teaching***

I follow these principles in teaching: being enthusiastic for each class and letting it show; learning about the students in the course; organizing each class well; using a presentation style that maximizes student interest; and using a variety of teaching methods to present the material. Along with these principles I hold value to educating myself in the topics that I teach my students. Preparation comes from being well informed about students' interests as well. When both the teacher and students are passionate about what is being learned then the environment of the classroom can become a positive experience. In addition to preparation, it's my goal to create content that brings joy for me and my students. When a teacher finds interest and joy in the content being taught, it transfers to the engagement of the student.

## ***I believe education is always evolving and changing***

Teaching is a never ending process of learning, and if you are choosing to be in this field, you know these words for a fact. Through centuries of research and theorists, we have changed and challenged our thinking about what learning truly means. The roles that we play inside or outside of the classroom are never at a stand-still. This profession pushes you to better your craft and knowledge of meaningful education. As humans we have evolved, and will continue to do so in many ways. The social and cultural factors of our society play an essential role in the life of our learners. As a teacher it is my goal to welcome change, and grow to be the best teacher for my students, colleagues, and myself.

## ***I believe in culturally responsive pedagogy***

As a teacher it is my job to support the diversity that my students bring to the classroom. I want to create a global outlook that builds bridges between cultures, passions, and perspectives. I find it important that students get a diverse curriculum and teaches them to be aware of the world around them. This can start with small community projects and then branch out to global research. It is important that students learn about the different cultures and backgrounds of people around them. I envision a class that celebrates diversity and generates curiosity and understanding among students. It is my goal to cultivate a safe space that responds to the many identities that walk into my classroom. As an educator we need to see our students as individuals first, in order to create learning experiences that connect to each of them.

## ***I believe in a growth mindset***

I know that as a teacher I am more than an educator. I am part of my students' lives inside and outside the classroom and I strive to create an open minded and purpose-driven environment. I want to provide engaging and challenging experiences that encourage my students to think, communicate, and interact with the world around them. I believe in success and in a growth mindset. The word "Yet" is a powerful tool that can change a students' perspective of learning. It is my job to encourage students to stretch their minds when something does not come easy for them.