The key to success in this world is to be confident in one's talents. Through my first two years of high school, I was a below-average student with below-average expectations for my future. During this time, everyone thought I would never amount to anything successful. I was then and am now a person of average intelligence. The difference between then and now is that at that time I didn’t believe I could be successful. However, thanks to a select few teachers believing in me and telling me of the great things I could accomplish, I found the self-confidence needed to go that extra mile to be successful.

All too often in our school systems, teachers give up on kids just because they are not as intelligent as some of their other students. In my experience, it was the voice of two great teachers who turned my life around and made me realize I was special and had something to offer. However, not all students realize their potential as I did; many students fall through the cracks. It is because of teachers who sell self-confidence that I decided to become a teacher. It is my belief that teachers like them are becoming scarce and more voices of confidence are needed.

When I become a teacher, I want to be known as unique from both my peers and my students. The last thing I want out of my career is to be known as the typical teacher. I want to be known as the teacher who makes every effort possible to keep classes interesting, staying away from the day in day out routine. It is of my opinion that many students don’t succeed not due to their failure as a student, but the teachers’ failure to
keep them interested in the subject material. When students look back on my classes, even if they don’t remember the majority of the material, I want them to remember me as the teacher that got the most effort out of them. Another primary goal for me as a teacher is to make sure the students look at me as somebody they can talk to when they are in trouble. I have made many mistakes in my life, some severe, others not. When students are afraid to tell their parents about these issues I would love for them to come to me. It’s not that I want to be there friend exactly, because as a student teacher relationship I feel you have to have a little more authority over a student then in a friend to friend relationship. I want them to respect me and know that I have been in their situation and will keep private anything they need to discuss with me, no matter how bad it is. In the sense of being a shoulder to cry on I would want to be their best friend.

As I said in the beginning, I am not a highly intelligent person and I will never be a highly intelligent person. You don’t have to be the smartest person alive to be a great teacher. The most important aspect of teaching is that you love your job, you love your students, and you have faith in the ability of yourself and those you teach. The primary goal for me as a teacher is to make sure my students are equipped with the survival skills for college and the rest of their life. In the end the subject material is just a means in which we shape future successful human beings.