

My Professional Teaching Credo:

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Introduction to Teaching 111

Mrs. Eastman

Abstract

Everybody in the education field has a different idea of what being a teacher means. At this point in my life, my teachers and the relationships with people in life has influenced my idea of what a teacher should be. That idea is just a starting point; not only will I progress as a student, but as an educator it is part of my job to continue learning as well. Incorporating a relaxed, familiar, but invigorating environment in my classroom is a goal I strive for. I believe teachers have one of the hardest careers; to be able to inspire and benefit the future of mankind is a gift that every teacher should embrace.

My Professional Credo:

Cayla Davenport

Dr. Seuss once stated, “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.” Everybody in the education field has a different idea of what being a teacher means. At this point in my life, my teachers and the relationships with people in my life has influenced my idea of what a teacher should be. That idea is just a starting point; not only will I progress as a student, but as an educator it is part of my job to continue learning as well. My goal in going into the teaching profession, is to give my students a better understanding of themselves and the endless possibilities life offers, while learning something about myself in the process. Teaching isn’t something that should go according to schedule; it’s a live performance and anything could happen. Students should be able to ask the important questions and get honest, creative answers. I believe teachers have one of the hardest careers; to be able to inspire and benefit the future of mankind is a gift that every teacher should embrace.

Every child has a dream of what they want to be when they grow up; mine was to be a teacher. I made my career choice when I was in the first grade, and I’ve never wanted to be anything else. I looked up to all of my teachers throughout my educational career, but the one teacher that really inspired me was Mrs. McClure.

Mrs. McClure was my first grade teacher, and I simply adored her. Through her, I grew to love school; even though I wouldn’t admit it to my peers. She taught me to read, write, and I think I learned a little math along the way as well. Her passion for teaching

was evident and she committed herself to help her students as much as possible. The lessons she taught encouraged me to take what I had learned and apply it to situations outside the classroom. Because she was committed to her job, I can say that I've become a successful student and a better person.

At the beginning of each school year, an educator is presented with a class of approximately twenty students, given a curriculum to follow, and one hundred and eighty days to cram their heads with as much textbook knowledge as possible. This tactic is impersonal, and whether our society wants to admit it or not, textbooks don't know everything.

I believe some life lessons are best learned through experience. Theodore Brameld, the founder of social reconstructionism, thought of bringing the everyday world into the classroom, in such ways of field trips. I strongly agree with Brameld's approach to education, and wish to include it in my own teaching habits. Each individual student learns at a different rate and style. A few students might soak up the information fed to them from the textbook, but I've found that so many more students learn through a 'hands-on' approach.

The environment I want to establish in my classroom is one of creativity, energy, and personal development. By working together and sharing views and opinions, students can start to look at themselves in a more positive light and progress, not only socially, but intellectually also. The relationship between a student and the teacher is very important in the learning process. I want to have a positive relationship with my students, where they aren't afraid to approach me and ask questions. I believe that in order for students to learn effectively, they should be able to ask questions and the

teacher can work along side the students to find an answer. The wise Dr. Seuss said, “Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple.” A teacher has to be ready for anything and everything; a lesson plan isn’t set in stone.

Some major parts of the education process includes grades and testing. Though these are important, they aren’t necessarily a great way to judge how well a student is doing. Whether or not a student has knowledge of a subject is evident in the classroom; through participation and presentations.

My teaching philosophical habits include both existentialism and social reconstructionism. Finding truth and knowledge in yourself can lead to change in how others view education. Another famous quote of Dr. Seuss says, “The more that you read, the more things you know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss is one of my favorite people to quote because he made learning creative and joyful, and if you look deeper into his rhyming words, you can find a true passion for life. I want to look deeper into a lesson plan and find the heart of the subject; turning it into something wonderful that my students would be overjoyed to share with the world.

My teachers have given me a starting point to my career. However, it’s up to me to grow and become the best teacher I can possibly be to every single one of my students, year after year. I hope to instill knowledge into my student’s minds, but also a passion for education in their hearts.

Reference Page

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Dr. Seuss. <www.thinkexist.com/drseuss>.