

I keep asking myself “am I ready for this”? I go from being nervous, excited, scared, and eager. That’s what I went through when Heather asked me to speak tonight...And I’m sure that’s what a lot of you are going through thinking about student teaching. If I can get up here and motivate my peers, which I hope I’m doing, than you should be able to educate your students. Be confident. Look back on your field experiences. Think about all the things you have learned in your short few years at Manchester College. Think about the great professors you have had, and how they have prepared you to be a great teacher. After thinking about all of that, ask yourself “why would I not be confident” and “why would I not be ready for this”. I don’t know about you, but I can’t come up with an answer for those questions. I believe that I am ready for student teaching. We are ready for student teaching. If we weren’t ready we wouldn’t be here tonight. Our professors believe in us. Let’s not let them down. It hurts me to say this, but it’s time to grow up. It’s time to enter the real world. No more rolling out of bed 5 minutes before an 11 o’clock class. No more staying up late with your friends doing who knows what. Now, you will be staying up late writing lesson plans and preparing for your day as a **teacher**. We’re taking on a lot more responsibilities. Step up to the challenge. Tomorrow, make sure you wake up in plenty of time to shower, make breakfast, watch the news, and grab a cup of coffee, because that’s what adults do. Get to your school early, make connections, and most importantly educate your students. I wish you all the best of luck, have fun, and remember that you can do it.