

Anna Wiechmann

Education Foundations

December 18, 2013

Journal #12

Code of Ethics for Teachers in Relation to Philosophy

The Minnesota Code of Ethics for teachers most closely fits with the Essentialist philosophy of education. Although education is always somewhat student centered, the Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers implies that classrooms should be centered on the subject matter and coinciding skills. According to this Code of Ethics, “a teacher shall not...distort any subject matter.” Teachers are ethically bound to present information about the subject to their students in a way that is appropriate, adequate, and accurate.

Essentialism focuses on preparing students for life outside of school by providing students with the “essential knowledge” in order to be contributing members of society. The Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers guides and encourages educators to also be contributing members of society and lead morally responsible lives both inside and outside of the classroom. Teachers are to be models for their students in everything, both in the ways they interact with the content and the world. Teachers are to be fair and promote equality and encourage their students to do the same.

The Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers and Essentialism both focus on having a basic core of knowledge both for academic interests and social interactions. While there are many educational philosophies and ideas that will shape my

teaching, the ideals presented both in the Code of Ethics for Minnesota Teachers and in the Essentialist philosophy will be evidenced in my classroom, as I focus student attention around my curriculum, so that they will have the necessary written and verbal communication skills to be successful outside of school, along with a firm ethical base.