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My Philosophy

Every teacher has his or her own philosophy and has come up with the teaching style that works best for them. When figuring out my own philosophy I tend to look back to some of my first experiences and what has worked or left an impact on myself. For me this works best because I know what I have liked and disliked in the classroom. How I will teach and run a classroom will be in the manner I think is the most impactful or helpful to the students. In the next few paragraphs I will be talking about classroom rules, how I will teach and finally what my job as the teacher will be to help the students.

In my class I want the students to feel like they had a say in the rules so I will to have the children help to form a list that we will then post somewhere for everyone to see in the room. By having the students help make the rules they then in return feel like they should follow these because they came up with the list. For those who break the rules there will be consequences. As a teacher it is my job to follow through with what I believe and not let the students do whatever they desire. If I would allow anything to happen they will then in return just walk all over the teacher and not learn the right behavior. If there is mutual respect the rules are more likely to be followed. If the teacher does not follow through with what is said, the students will then continue the bad behavior.

For teaching, I believe that examples in real life and seeing what is being learned are key to learning the material. For me when the teacher included different examples or let students practice on their own it helped me to remember what was being taught. I also like the idea of teaching the new material then giving time at the end to the students to start the assignment.

Then the students can ask me the teacher if they get stuck or even work with a small group on the assignment. When I was a student, I understood the concepts better when I helped my classmates with the material. In my classroom I will encourage group discussions and at different times to work on activities.

Although academic standards are important, I also feel that teamwork is a life skill that is taught in the classroom. I also want the students to learn to work together and be a team. I think if students learn these skills at a young age it will help them in the future with jobs and a career. Children need to learn how to work with others and know that not everything will go perfect because there will be struggles or hard times. I want to challenge my students while always keeping the bar achievable. Some students will succeed at some things while they struggle at others. As a class we can use everyone's strengths to create a team that works together to the best ability.

Overall philosophies change all of the time. If one strategy isn't effective for the student population, I will adapt my philosophy to meet the student needs. Through collaborating with colleagues and attending continuing education workshops, I will incorporate new teaching philosophies into my current practice.