

Britney Hunt

Philosophy of Education

“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.”

This is something that I believe with all of my heart. Ever since I was in grade school, my teachers have always asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. A lot of kids say things like doctor, firefighter, astronaut, or professional athlete but none of those things ever interested me. I have always known that I wanted to be a teacher. I was always the student who picked up on things quickly. As I got older, I took jobs that strayed outside the lines of education but always found myself doing the same things. I always found myself helping other that were struggling at all my jobs, I always wanted to help. Other jobs I took still ended up with me teaching my peers because I was always the person who picked up tasks quickly and could help others and explain it in a way that they could understand. Through these experiences, I have always known I was born to teach and lead others. Because of all these things, my teaching philosophy is that educators are the most valuable resource available. It is because of teachers that we have every other profession.

As kids, we spend our early years with our parents or maybe even our grandparents. Those are our teachers from birth to around 6 years old. They teach us how to crawl, walk, and talk, what not to do, and how to love. When we embark onto Kindergarten, we begin a journey of spending more time with our teachers at school than we do with our parents at home. We learn how to read, how to write, how to do math, and many other academics. As much as teachers are there to teach us academically, they also teach us about life. Educators are mothers, fathers, grandmothers and so forth. For anything to be learned, it must first be taught. I was blessed with many great teachers who I now can call friend. They have been there for me

through the best days of my life and the worst days. Outside of a child's parents, teachers are there to guide and protect and see that young people grow up to be productive adults. It is easy to see why teachers play such a vital role in a child's life.

My personal goal in teaching is to teach in an inclusive environment and see to it that my students reach their full potential. I want to make sure that each student is willing and able to participate and play an active role in their education. I have learned recently that social and emotional learning is going to be a major part in my strategies for reaching student on a personal and academic level. As educators, we have to be understanding as sympathetic to each child as an individual and treat them as such. Everyone learns differently and everyone responds differently to teaching strategies. I have learned that every classroom is going to have a mixture of students who were much like myself and picked up on things quickly but it will also have students who have learning disabilities and need a fresh perspective on the materials. I want to always be motivated by these challenges in teaching and make sure to always be encouraging to every student regardless of their academic strengths or weaknesses. Each year I want to give each student a fresh start and an opportunity to be equal to all students regardless of disabilities.

As I have journeyed through life and made my way back to education, my thoughts and ideas have changed. I realize that as an educator, my teaching philosophies may change and probably should change. I will adapt and grow as a teacher and my goals and missions will change. I believe that my experiences will make me stronger and help me to be a better teacher. I want to be sure that I am always open to new ideas and constructive criticism as it may come. I know that growth and development is not only for my students but for myself as well. I truly believe that teachers change the world and it is a great honor to be on this journey to becoming an educator.