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**Philosophy Paper**

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 Students begin school as early on as the age of five. Some students will not finish their general education till the age of 18. By the time a student will graduate from high school, he or she will have spent roughly 72% of their life in school. It is the teacher’s job to present the his or her students with the information needed to go on to the next level of their life. Whether that level be college, trade school, or a job, it is the teachers job to present the knowledge needed for the student to go on. This task may seem easy at first, but there are countless amounts of issues that go along with being responsible for the life of children. When it comes to the education of children, there are various ideas that should be examined before becoming a teacher. These ideas include the role of the school in society, the view of a student, the creation of a curriculum, instruction, assessment and classroom management, the role of the student’s families in their child’s education, and the role of the teacher.

 In society, school is seen in many different ways by a great variety of people. Although this is the case, there needs to be a positive attitude towards school in general. I believe that school is where a child or student first begins to fall in love with learning. There are many different things that could go wrong with this picture. For example, a student could never enjoy learning due to social or mental issues. Even though this is the case in certain instances, a student will see themselves gaining more knowledge through their education in school. School should also be understood as a place of growth for students in more ways than just their studies. It is a place for the student to be immersed in the culture of their area. Every school has a set of beliefs, values, traditions and ways of thinking and behaving toward one another. Without the experience of going to school, a student will not be able to fully understand their culture and function within their society. School is also a place for social skills to be formed. If a student is homeschooled, he or she might not be able to have the experience of learning the things necessary to becoming a well-functioning and acceptable member of their society.

 The view of the student is another major idea that a future teacher needs to understand. When it comes to their education, students are the complete responsibility of their teachers. A teacher should view their students as a sponge that is desperately wishing for information to absorb. I believe there is a reason that children ask so many questions. It is because they have a so much curiosity about the world around them. They have a deep desire to learn about their surroundings. Although this attitude of children is mainly seen in elementary school, middle and high school students have this desire also. When a student is in middle and high school, they are dealing with much more difficult things than that of an elementary student. They are dealing with biological changes, cognitive changes, changes in self- concept, self esteem, and identity development, as well as changes in their achievement motivation. Every student in middle and high school is going through at least one of these changes. For this reason, they should be seen with empathy. They should be viewed as a fellow struggling human being, not a rude and ignorant teenager.

 The creation of a curriculum, instruction, assessment and classroom management are other items that should be examined by a future teacher. All aspects of a teacher’s life need to be organized. If a student sees his or her teacher being organized, they will learn from positive qualities. Hopefully, those students will take on some of the same skills themselves. Even though many curriculums are provided for the teachers by the state, a teacher still have the ability to teach the curriculum as they see fit. In order to do so, the teacher needs to understand the way his or her student’s think. The teacher needs to figure out the best way for his or her student’s to learn. By doing this, the teacher will not waste his or her time trying to teach children who are not capable of paying attention to that certain teaching method. An example of this could be the fact that some students are visual learners. I personally am. During my early education days, I hated when I would have to listen to something, then have to be prepared to be tested on the information I was supposed to be listening to. I would always get distracted and get a bad grade on my test. For this reason, it is important for a teacher to understand the students. It is best for a teacher to take the first few days with the students to try to see what the best teaching method would be for them. This also is a good time to see which students are the most talkative, the most likely to not listen, and the most likely to persuade others to learn with them. With the knowledge of the qualities of the student, it will be a much easier task to teach.

 When thinking of an effective school, many people would automatically think of great teachers or amazing students, but a major factor of an efficient school is actually the role of the student’s family. Every child biggest desire is to have the attention and love of their family members. There is no greater smile than of a child who knows their parents are proud of them. For this reason, it is extremely important to keep the family involved in the education of their child. Although this may be difficult, it is important to understand that the parents are going through the same struggles as everyone else. The family of the student should be expected to help with any homework necessary. Even though most students will have helpful parents, there will be cases where students do not have a great home life. In these particular instances, a teacher should be able to understand this scenario and act accordingly. If I was put into this situation, I would try to help the student in any way I could. If the student was in an after school program, I could ask the parents if I could help their child with their homework. I needed I could create an extra study period during school so all the students would be able to get the proper help they deserve. All families should be treated as if they are co-teachers. They take on the teaching once the student leaves their teachers presence. The teacher then resumes the teaching once the student leaves their parents presence. The cycle goes on and on. Overall, it is important to keep the parents involved with their child’s education. They truly care and want to know how their child is doing in school.

 Lastly, the role of the teacher is another idea that all future teacher should examine. The role of the teacher can be seen in many different ways. When I was younger, my mother passed away. For this reason, I always felt as if my teachers had a motherly like kindness toward me. They made me feel like I was wanted and loved. This truly is what a teacher’s role is. A teacher is to show the love and support that his or her students desperately want and need. Teachers also need to communicate with their students. Communication is the key to helping students learn. It also is the key to helping students to have a “can-do” attitude. It is also important to make sure that every teacher communicates well with each other. For example, when I was in fifth grade, I began to switch between two different teachers. Without the great communication between my two teachers, my whole class would have not achieved as much as we did during that year of our education. As a teacher, I will communicate with my students and fellow teacher to the best of my ability. I will also do this with the greatest amount of kindness and compassion I am capable of having.

 Is many cases, when an individual says they wish to be a teacher, the usual response is “Why?” It is usually followed by a look of disgust. It is incredibly challenging to understand how someone to few the responsibilities of a teacher to be disgusting. A teacher has a little bit of every job. A teacher is a mom or dad, counselor, friend, and an educator. With all these different attitudes, teachers have to be one of a kind.