

Philosophy of Education

I aspire to teach fourth grade mainly because all core subjects are still taught at this level. My mother was a fifth-grade teacher, and I loved observing her classes, but I believe I will enjoy teaching all subjects instead of being limited to one like my mother was while teaching fifth grade. My mother, my aunts, my sister, my grandmother, and many other members of my family are or were teachers. All of my biggest influencers are extremely passionate about their students and value education which is one reason why education is so important to me. I've also had many amazing teachers who have impacted my life in numerous ways which is another reason education is important to me. Without my education, I would not intellectually or socially be ready to contribute to our society like I am today.

I believe each school's role is to prepare young adults to enter society. School takes up most of people's time until they either finish high school or continue their education into college. While attending school, students advance not only academically, but also in problem solving, critical thinking, and social skills which prepare them to enter society. Therefore, the purpose of education is not only to academically advance students, but to push them to be better individuals who will contribute to society. Since the role of students is to learn, and the role of teachers is to serve and educate, one way educators can ensure that schools serve all students well is to hire people who are equipped and prepared to serve each student.

I view each student as someone who will one day contribute to our society. Our classrooms are filled with future educators, veterinarians, doctors, lawyers, police officers, politicians, and maybe even a future president. I believe it is an honor to have an impact on these

students' lives and to be able to push them to be their best selves. As a teacher, though, I can do only that, push them to be their best selves. The students' role in their education is the key role. Each student will come across many choices, and it is up to him or her to choose and direct his or her own path. The role of each student is to learn and grow. As teachers, we can assure that all students are prepared to undertake this role by acknowledging and adapting to our students' differences. Students learn in different ways, at different paces, and with different methods, and as a future educator, I understand and embrace this challenge.

Since the role of the student is to learn and grow, I believe the role of the teacher is to facilitate student learning and growth. I believe a teacher needs to provide the material that students need to educate themselves, and when students need help, the teacher is there to assist them. As a Christian, I believe the teacher's role is to also serve his or her students in their time of need. Each student's needs are going to be different, and the teacher's role is to adjust to those needs. One of the primary responsibilities of a teacher in a society that values diversity is to allow students to express their differences. There will be students in my classroom who come from different backgrounds, races, religious beliefs, and gender orientations. It is important for me to not only make accommodations for differences in learning styles, but to also be aware of and sensitive to differences in backgrounds and interests.

I will design my curriculum, instruction, assessments and classroom management around progressivism. Some ways I will incorporate progressivism into my classroom are allowing students to learn by doing, hands-on activities, problem solving, critical thinking, group work, and most importantly, personalized learning. I will encourage my students to set personal goals and assist them to reach those goals. I will use projects to provoke curiosity and promote experience over testing. Group work will improve social skills, team work, and flexibility, and

will prepare students for their futures. A personalized approach will maximize learning for a diverse population of students.

I intend to include families into my students' educations through face-to-face interactions during parent teacher conferences at the beginning and middle of the school year. I will also communicate with the families of students with disabilities in order to assist these students in reaching individual goals. I also intend to inform families when disciplinary action is necessary.

I believe education is vital to the future of our society, and as a future educator, it is an honor to be a part of each student's life. Students progress through each grade level with dreams of becoming future doctors, lawyers, and numerous other professionals. No matter what the grade level, each educator will impact their students' lives and help shape their dreams. I am excited to one day have a career that will allow me to care for, serve and impact so many lives.