

Philosophy of Education

Education plays a very important role in society. Within education there are two roles that I believe are the most important. This would be the students and the educators.

The school itself has a strong role in every community. Students spend about thirteen years in the school system. Students go to school to get educated, however, it is not just about a student getting a diploma. School opens up an environment where students can learn about themselves. It allows them to identify what their interests and abilities are. This could be through clubs, sports, or any extracurricular that the school may offer. School helps set the basis for each student's life so that they can figure out who they want to be. As a student gets older they have more decisions to make for themselves. They do a lot more independent work and can choose whether or not they are going to do something. School allows students to set personal goals and reach them, whether it is getting a certain grade, reading a book, or getting voted onto student council. When a student sets a goal and reaches it, it makes the chances of them wanting to set a new goal increase. There are so many opportunities that a student can get from receiving an education. I believe that in America going to school is routine. It is something that every child is expected to do, and no questions are asked. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to send students to school at the snap of a finger. School plays a huge role in society because it prepares students for college or for life after high school.

A school cannot be a school if it does not have students. Students come from many different backgrounds, but they all come to school for the same thing; to learn and to educate. Students come to school so that they can receive an education and to prepare themselves for the future. It is wrong to believe that a student's duty is only to sit and take in lessons taught by the teacher. Students themselves can be teachers in the classroom. Students can learn from other

students by working together and sharing ideas. Each student brings a different way of thinking and different ideas to the table. There are not two students who are the same, and they all play a very important role in receiving an education. Students do not want to sit and listen to a teacher lecture every day. They want to interact with their peers. I see group work as being very beneficial for students because it allows them to think deeper into a topic.

As a future educator, there are many things I have learned and hope to use in the classroom. I think that setting a mood and tone for your classroom can have a big impact on how the students learn. A warm, positive environment is more welcoming to the students and creates a more relaxed learning space. I hope to make my classroom an enjoyable space that my students look forward to coming to. A lot of times students look up to their teachers and try to do things like they do. Students, especially younger, may mimic their teacher, so it is crucial to always be a positive example in and out of the classroom. I have also learned that just because students are in the same grade does not mean they are on the same level. Each classroom contains many different brains. Some are quicker, and some are slower. This can be stressful at times, but luckily there are many different styles of learning that can be used in the classroom. There are auditory, visual, or hands-on learners in the classroom. I believe it is important to try as hard as possible to incorporate all three of these learning styles into every lesson. An educator should not just come into the classroom, teach the required lesson, and send the kids home. Students also need to be taught social skills that can better prepare them for their future.

Classroom management is overwhelming at times and can be difficult for new teachers. I believe in rewarding positive behavior and disciplining negative. From observing I have learned a way to reward students for being good. Each time they behave well in the classroom, get a compliment from another teacher, or receive a good note from a substitute, the teacher adds

paper chain links to a chain. Once the chain reaches the floor, the students are allowed to choose from several different reward options. This promotes positive behavior and makes the students want to behave in and out of the classroom. Punishment for bad behavior may include being sent to the office or having to sit out during an activity.

I believe keeping a student's family involved is crucial. Parents and family members are the teachers for students outside of the classroom. Students cannot be receiving two different types of education. Parents and educators need to be on the same page of where the student is at. This could be how well he/she is doing in the classroom or about how their student is acting socially. As a future educator, I will stress to parents the importance of parent-teacher conferences. Since I know that not every parent will attend, and you cannot force them to, I will send out weekly notes to the parents. This may be via email, or a letter in the child's folder. I am wanting to teach elementary students. Younger students change rapidly. Teachers start seeing where the students are lacking and where the students are strong. Parents need to be involved and updated on how their child is doing so that they can give them extra help after school hours to get them where they need to be.

I believe that the role of school in society, the role of the teacher, and the role of the student all come together for the purpose of setting our future. The school holds the teachers who hold the students.