

## Philosophy of Education

Teaching Kindergarten will be a very good thing for me to do because I love this age group. They are all so loving and innocent. There is so much love in the classroom every day. I know when I was in kindergarten, I loved it. I loved the fact that no one in the classroom cared about what one another looked like. We were all friends and everything about life was all so simple. All throughout elementary school and middle school, when someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I would always say "A teacher!" I said this because I absolutely loved going to school. My mom and dad would constantly catch me playing "school" with my stuffed animals immediately when I came home from school. It was not until high school, when I moved to Arkansas, that I changed what I wanted to be. My freshman year of high school, my mom had just completed the nursing program to become a Registered Nurse. I would help her study sometimes and I really enjoyed the material and I thought it was so interesting. At this point, I was telling everyone I wanted to follow in my mom's footsteps in becoming a registered nurse. When I got to college, my first semester of taking nursing classes made me quickly realize that I still wanted to be a teacher. Something in the back of my mind made me change my major from nursing to teaching. Since this happened, I think teaching is my true calling. I always say, "If you love something, let it go, if it comes back, it was love." I guess you could say that teaching is what I love.

In the past few months, I have learned that for some kids, school is their favorite place to go. There can be many different reasons for why it is their favorite place to be. Some reasons could be their parents, the fact that this could be the only place they get food, their friends at

school, or the feeling of “home” they get while they are at school. These things play a big role in the smaller populated schools, like the one I observed in Hoxie.

Starting a child in school is just something you have to do as a parent. Schooling is very important because if a child does not have it, they may not develop the same maturities compared to if they did. I believe that education is the foundation for a successful life. When I was younger, I never thought about the future and how big of a role my education would play. Then again, you do not really think about that at such a young age. All throughout a child’s schooling career, they should shoot for nothing but the best because in the long run, that is what you ultimately want for yourself and your future children in school. To make sure that each school is serving each student appropriately, we test them at a certain grade. I was tested in the fifth grade in Tennessee. The testing is to make sure that each student is obtaining information correctly and to make sure they are on the correct level they should be on in order to move on to the next grade level.

The student in a classroom is the subject that has the potential to do great things and the teacher’s job is to help them see that. Teach them that they want to be successful and do great things. Give them the correct mindset. The teacher in the classroom is the person that provides the student with what they need on any day. You provide them with the appropriate material to challenge them and watch them succeed at what they thought was impossible. When this happens, the teacher gets to see the student’s eyes light up with excitement and seeing this makes the teacher’s eyes light up.

In different school systems, diversity plays a big role. America has come a long way since the segregated school systems, which is an amazing thing. Although we have come out of this

negative phase, there are still some parents, grandparents, and great grandparents that are somewhat against blacks and whites being in the same room together. Since these people still exist, they try to pass down those beliefs to the future generations. This is the issue we will be faced with for years to come. As teachers, we have to teach them that everyone is equal. Not just based on skin color but also gender, family income, background, hair color, name, etc. Everyone is different, even in identical twins there are differences in the two. We, as teachers, have to teach that different is a good thing because if everyone was the same, we would all be so bored.

Still elaborating on diversity, as teachers we have to make our classroom appropriate for all different types. We may have to alter our lesson plans and different activities to better suit the level of diversity in our classroom. I plan on doing this by incorporating all genders, all races, etc. into all of my activities I may have planned on any given day. I will not separate the classroom in anyway. We should all work with one another and not be afraid to do so.

To conclude, I am beyond excited to start teaching. If I could go and start decorating my classroom and meet my students right now, I would. Teaching kindergarten is my dream and I am ready to learn more techniques and tips to help prepare me for the future. I have to be taught all I can be taught before I can go teach anyone anything about what they should know.