Jessica Trelstad

Teaching Philosophy

Spring 2016

 I believe teaching is a life-long learning process and regardless of one’s years of experience, there is always room for improvement. I feel when working in a challenging profession such as teaching, it is crucial for teachers to be open-minded as well as a team player. Elementary students are our future and each student has the potential to bring something unique and special to this world. As a teacher, my aim is to create an atmosphere that encourages curiosity and determination.

 I believe as a skilled educator, it is essential that I build strong and trusting relationships with my students. I believe with strong student support, student engagement will be heightened. I vow to take the time to get to know each of my students on a personal level. I will use students’ interests to inform my instruction. In order for every student to succeed, it is my job as an educator to facilitate their learning by providing the students with the tools and confidence to achieve. I will establish goodwill with my student by listening to them, protecting their self-esteem, praising them as a whole, and showing them the respect that I expect from them. I will always hold my students to high standards, to ensure they reach their fullest potential.

 In order for students to succeed, the school and classroom climate must be designed for student success. I believe in creating a calm and nurturing classroom climate which stimulates my students to be driven and independent learners. To best meet all the diverse needs of all students, my classroom will be a place where all students can learn without fear of failure or judgement. I will create a learning environment that is serious and thoughtful, while using light humour to build a sense of classroom community. My classroom will be a place where academic, cultural, and economic diversities will be embraced and celebrated.

 I maintain that the planned curriculum and delivery of curriculum is an extremely important component of teaching today. I believe that a teacher should know his/her students well enough to develop and modify curriculum continually in order to meet all students’ learning needs. I will differentiate the key elements of curriculum including content delivery, learning interactions, and assessment to set all students in my classroom up for success. I will inspire and motivate my students to learn by teaching connections between the lesson content and everyday life. I will foster independent learning in my classroom, and encourage all students to take responsibility for their learning. Overall, I know by monitoring student learning and planning according to the needs of all individuals in my classroom, students will be able to succeed.

 Finally, I believe the best way I can ensure my students are continually motivated to learn and maintain high self-esteem is to lead by example. I will strive to model for my students what is expected, how to be a team player, how to maintain healthy relationships, and self reflection skills. I will hold myself to high standards of performance as well as continually seek improvement. I will always strive to make my students education a successful and positive experience.