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Philosophy of Education

Education shapes each individual into the person he or she is meant to be. Education provides opportunities for people to obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed. That is why educators need to meet the needs of each student providing the best possible education. An education not only gives students the basic knowledge to carry out into their everyday lives and eventually obtain a career, but it also provides students with social skills needed to succeed in life. Consider using a personal example of what education looks like. Think about the teachers who made the biggest impact, who were not so friendly, and who only focused on the subject, and not getting to know the student. Now, think about the difference between those teachers. The important concept to take away here is that those teachers are drastically different which also means so are their teaching philosophies. They all have different outlooks on education and have different ideas on how they plan to implement an education within their classrooms. Luckily, teachers all have that luxury to design a classroom that fits their philosophy, but that does not always mean that it is what's best for each child.

Students learn through seeing, listening, and doing, and it is my job to set them up for success with consistency and stamina in the classroom. Students need to have access to seeing, listening, and doing, and as the teacher it is my responsibility to provide them with those opportunities. It is my responsibility as an educator to develop lessons that meet the needs of each of these three types of learners. Learning is adaptable for all students, and we must provide students with the opportunities to get the most out of their learning experience. Coming up with classroom management strategies aids each student's success with understanding positive behavior. Management plans help teachers develop a successful relationship with their students and also create a special bond between the teacher and the students that includes trust, respect and safety. Establishing clear classroom routines and procedures is necessary for ensuring that my classroom runs smoothly. This also shows that I am setting students up for success by showing them what is expected out of each individual. Before getting started on the procedures or routines, it is essential to go over the importance of each item to show students the rationale behind the various routines and procedures. When possible, invite students to create procedures as a whole. This will open the doors to creating trust and respect within our community in my classroom. My philosophy addresses the expectation for not only my students, but also myself. Each set of rules, routines and procedures needs to demonstrated by the teacher, just as it is expected of by the students. Establishing procedures and routines ensures that students understand the reason for the routine. As the teacher, I will clarify the procedures through modeling, allow students opportunities to practice the routine through rehearsal, and will only introduce a few ideas at a time so that the students are set up for success.

The purpose of education today is to give each student an equal opportunity to learn in the classroom, not only about required, basic subject work, but also about who they are as people and even who they want to become. By teaching students using this outlook, it will allow their educational experience to mold them into well-rounded and successful individuals. The purpose of schools should be to build and expand upon opportunities and knowledge for as many students as possible. It should not be to promote the political, economic, and social stability of our society through only providing higher education to the most “gifted” students, but instead focus on freedom, development, and subjective view of success.

Every child deserves an equal opportunity to learn, and it is my job, as an educator, to facilitate equity. Students need to feel that their classroom is a safe environment where they are free to ask questions and explore their thoughts. This falls under one of the responsibilities of the teacher. Existentialist methods focus on the individual and what is best for them. Their learning is designed to be self-paced and includes a great deal of individual contact with the teacher, who develops an open and honest relationship with the students. That is the beauty of education; you never know what to expect and education is forever evolving, but one thing that always remains the same is our own philosophy. As Albert Camus has said, "there is scarcely any passion without struggle." This quote says it all, and it is undeniably true.