

Philosophy of Education

I have always deep down wanted to be an art teacher, ever since elementary school, however, my views as to why have changed dramatically since then. One main reason why they have changed is due to my mentor and role model, my high school metalsmithing teacher. She is what has inspired me to focus on secondary art education.

To me, teachers do not simply have a responsibility to teach. They have responsibilities to be a friend or confidant, role model, disciplinarian, safety belt, supporter, and to ultimately prepare their students for their future. Although these are some large roles they are not impossible to obtain, maybe not every one of my students will think of me as their best friend or role model but I will be impacting and shaping their life in some way. Every person that a child meets has shaped their life somehow. As I am still growing it is impossible for me to look back and think of where I would be without each and every person I have met. Each person has had an influence on the person that I am today.

In order to be the best teacher, I need to know and try my hardest to understand my students and where they are coming from. I need to listen to them and understand their perspectives. Although they are students they are still humans and have opinions, experiences, and ideas that are important!

In an art classroom it is easier to have your students open up and get to know them. They are producing a piece of work that more than likely depicts their life in some way. The nature of an art classroom is very social, students need to talk with other students, and the instructor needs to talk and discuss with the students. Ultimately art has the possibility to teach students so much more than simply a skill. Art has the possibility

to teach students about themselves, their community, different perspectives, society, visual culture, and so much more!

I absolutely loved my four years of high school; however, I know there are a lot of students who would disagree with me about their own high school experiences. I find great satisfaction in the teaching profession because I have the opportunity to potentially allow my students to see there are great opportunities during their high school careers. I have realized there are many learning experiences to be had when involved outside of your studies in outside organizations. I often learned more in outside organizations about life and working with others than in the classroom. I hope my future classes can bring the experiences necessary for them to obtain confidence, curiosity, and passion about life. There is something for everyone in high school and I hope to help my students find their other “home”.

As a teacher, I will be a part of a high school faculty. I will be supportive towards new and exciting ideas that I see a positive change in the future of the school and the students. I will respect them along with my students and other staff members. In order to gain respect from the people you interact with you need to respect them as well.

My classroom will be filled with tools, posters, colors, famous work along with student work, but most importantly support. I will be a supporter for any and all great and creative ideas my students come up with. I am excited to show them something small like a simple technique and see them run with it down their own path. Not all of my students are going to like my class or me, but I hope to teach them something about life and prepare them for their life following graduation. I hope for them to potentially be better people for what they have learned from my class. Some may not know right away

what my class will have taught them, but one day I hope they look back and notice they learned compassion, critical and innovative thinking, how to discuss things constructively, among many other things.

The student's projects are going to be focused around pushing them to reach new limits and take some type of risk. In order to be creative you need to push yourself. Some might say art is a "blow off" course, but you can \ gain a lot of understanding about yourself from it if taken seriously. I think a big problem that I will be faced with are parents not understanding why their child is a straight A student but in my art class they are not getting an A. Art takes effort, if they are not putting effort in, they are not going to get anything out of it, including an A.

In the end I hope to have impacted someone somehow. I hope I helped at least one student realize there is something more to high school than unnecessary cliques, petty drama, and awkward dances. I hope I will have new and exciting opportunities presented to me that allow for me to have a greater involvement with my students. I would really enjoy heading a leadership program at whatever school I am at. Being involved in high school and college has really made an impact on how I want to continue my involvement. Most importantly I hope to be a teacher who does not get paid the greatest but loves going to work everyday because I know that the students I see everyday are one day going to be the face of the world.