

Educational Philosophy

As a teacher it is my duty to provide a safe, positive environment for students in which they develop the skills and concepts they need to become responsible, contributing, community minded citizens. I strive to foster an environment where all children can experience academic and personal growth during the school year. My students will be encouraged to respect, value, and share their own and each other's special gifts and talents from God.

Every classroom is a community that is made up of a unique blend of learners. Students must see that each member of our community has value and purpose. In an environment based on mutual respect, students can develop respect for themselves and their classmates. Routines need to be established and followed so that all students feel secure in knowing what the expectations are. When the basic needs of all students are met, students can focus on learning.

Students are individual learners with their own learning styles. They have different life experiences and motivations. Students need to participate in developing their own learning goals and become active participants in assessing their learning. All students need to have opportunities to celebrate their successes when goals are met or redirect their efforts when goals are not met.

My goal must be to present the content in a way that will foster critical thinking and help my students develop problem solving strategies. I need to relate the lessons to my students' real world experiences to help them find a connection between their lives and the learning objectives. In order for students to be engaged in learning I need to make sure students have a clear understanding of the expectations and the lessons need to provide opportunities for students to be active participants.

I will encourage students to work both independently and collaboratively. As independent learners, students will establish their own personal goals and become responsible for their work and their behaviors. Working collaboratively, students can often find the confidence they need to explore, ask questions, analyze, and actively contribute within their groups. Working both independently and collaboratively will allow students to take learning to "another level" as they expand their thinking and become more inquisitive.

As a teacher I am blessed to spend each day in a learning community based on mutual respect. I am honored to be given opportunities to share in the daily successes of my students and to see the world through the eyes of our future.