Jessica Durinsky

Philosophy of Education

In the world today education is a requirement for success and I believe that children regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status - should be given the same opportunity to reach their full potential. I myself am an avid learner and my passion for history has led me to become an educator. By becoming a teacher I hope to instill the same passion for learning in my students the same way I have been inspired to learn by my own teachers. I hope to be a role model for my students. I have high expectations for myself and I don't intend to let my students down. I will expect my students to work hard in school but I will work just as hard, if not harder for my students.

I believe that knowledge does not just happen, but that the students need to be active participants in their own education. I think it is very important for students to know and respect each other so that they can successfully work together. Students' interacting with each other in the form of group activities and discussions is very important for learning. Students should be learning in an environment that they can participate in. Knowledge does not consist of just memorizing names and dates, it involves attaining full understanding of the causes and effects of an event, understanding the importance of an event, and being able to make connections from the past and present to the event.

I understand that not all students are the same and they can come from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, and I hope to be able to reach out to each of these students and teach them about each other's varied backgrounds. I understand that each student has a different approach to learning and I will try to use a wide range of teaching strategies so as to meet and enhance each students needs.

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As a future teacher I recognize that there are high moral and ethical principles to follow. I intend to model these moral and ethical principles for my own students. It will be important for me to be just and fair when it comes to grades and discipline. I intend to use the proper amount of discipline with my students. They need to know what is the right or wrong behavior and be responsible for their actions so they will be able to interact properly in the real world when they leave school.

I understand that technology is an important part of education today as it opens up numerous possibilities for students. Just having knowledge and skills in using technology is not enough, though. It is important that I help my students see the potential and capabilities that technology can afford. I will encourage my students to use new technology and the resources it can provide inside and outside of the classroom to the fullest extent. Also, as technology is an ever-changing resource it is important for me as a teacher to keep up with the ongoing use of technology for instructions and data management.

I believe that the knowledge of the teacher is one of the most important things in education because you cannot teach what you do not know. I plan on being a history teacher, and it is very important that I be an expert in my subject area, so along with my teaching degree I will also be receiving a history degree. It is also important for teachers to have a good base in pedagogical knowledge. I believe that a teacher should never stop learning. I hope to continue my education after graduation both in my education degree and also in history. I also believe that the more knowledgeable a teacher is the more knowledge they will be able to pass on to their students. I feel that I have learned a lot in my years at school but how do you know when it is enough? I look forward to continuing my education as far as I can and I hope that this sets a good example for my students.