

Nancy Bellai
EDUC 230 Education Field Experience

Personal Philosophy of Teaching & Learning

The role of a special subject teacher, such as in the arts and music can be very influential to certain students. Nancy Bellai's focus as a teacher is to bring out the confidence of students who struggle in their general education. As a student herself, Nancy struggled throughout her elementary years. During her field experience hours, she witnessed students that often reminded her of herself as a young student. Nancy believes that confidence is a trait that is often brought out by the teachers themselves, and then carried onto the student – whereas the student may carry onto other subjects and into other aspects of their own life. Thus being said, the role of the teacher should be supportive within the planned lessons and as a support when children enter the classroom with social issues that may be originating from home. The teacher should not only focus on the class on the whole, but on each individual student. Each student should be given the proper attention to not fall behind. To attain this, the instructor should give the students multiple tools to solve issues in the classroom. Where one student may prefer to learn visually, another may learn best by kinesthetic references. It is important to remember each student's best learning strategies to become a successful teacher.

The role of the student, most significantly, is to find his or her own best learning strategy. Once this learning style has been found, the student will then have the best outcome within each lesson taught. In order for the student to find their best learning style, awareness of the seven learning styles should be taught by a young age. Because young students absorb information best, they can use this to further their education. Once students can identify if they are a visual, aural, verbal, physical, logical, social, and/or solitary learners, they can utilize the proper tools. As an older student, they will have the ability to personalize their own learning tools throughout the classroom, and other resources such as the Internet and outside in the real world.

Curriculum plays an important role in education. However, special subject teachers often are left with an outdated curriculum or to create their own. It is up to the instructor to create lessons that teaches students the basics of the subject. Without the basics, the student will struggle in furthering their education in that subject. In the arts, the youngest students focus on hands-on learning of basic materials such as paper, glue, scissors, pencils, paint, and so-on. Without this information, they will have trouble relating to works of art by classical and modern artists. Older students in elementary education focus on learning history of artists and how they achieved their influential works. Because of what students are taught within the early curriculum, they are able to relate to famous works of art and have the resources to create their own. The connections between the instructor, the student, and the curriculum, are closely linked in the students overall success. It is important for students to learn the resources they need – not only to succeed in the classroom, but also to have the tools to learn for the rest of their lives after their educational career.

Rationale Statement

Date of Completion: April 2018

Date of Submission: April 2018

Title of Artifact: Personal Philosophy of Teaching & Learning

Standard: Standard Five: Application of Content – The teacher understands how to connect concepts and use differing perspectives to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

I am placing my Personal Philosophy of Teaching & Learning under Standard Five, Application of content because it displays how I actively applied personal experience while student teaching into my own views as both a student and instructor.