

“Teachers are the building blocks of the youth. This quote means everything to me, when I talk about how I personally want to teach in tomorrow's world of education. Education is changing constantly and it's up to me as a future educator to make sure that all future and present students as well as teachers do their absolute best to correct the mistakes of yesterday to improve the thinkings of tomorrow. This can be as simple as importing new teaching characteristics such as using quality teaching or professional teaching, learning targets, multiple learning, backward design and exit cards to gain the attention of our students.

Quality teaching or professional teaching, in the fact that when teachers are just alright with how they have been teaching they never strive for excellent which is what everyone should want to accomplish while teaching anyone not just students but even other teachers and other educators everywhere, including coaches and superiors in the office such as counselors all the way up to principals and even deans for the district. I also want to implement learning targets so my students know what they need to take home most importantly but not solely when being taught a lesson in the classroom. Multiple learning, in the fact that students learn in not just one or even two distinct ways but several ways, so being able to accomplish this is expected of me in the classroom among many other higher standards. Backward design, so that even I understand what I want the overall goal of the lesson is before the students are taught the lesson so that we can all take away the same important traits from the lesson being presented to them that morning or day in class. Exit cards, in my class room are going to be to keep my students engaged throughout the period so that even as the block or class may go on that they stay interested in the information that is shown to them and that they have all taken away the end goal of the class that session. These will all help me in the classroom daily and strengthen my already strong traits to being a teacher in the sense that I already appreciate and value for all students that come into my classroom everyday and myself.

One of my Strengths would have to be that I always exhibit an appreciation and value an awareness for students coworkers superiors and myself everyday. This is based off of the fact that I generally always demonstrate awareness of family contexts because as “normal” as my family may have seemed we all had our own problems. I know what most think, both parents still married and together that nothing can be wrong but everyone has their problems and that is what I’m good at understanding is that no matter how much or little money a student’s family may or may not have there is no such thing as a perfect family let alone a normal family so I always took to understanding the problems everyone has in their respective life and helping them take this problem and turn it from a negative into a positive way of thinking. I also do this by understanding everyone comes from a diverse background or social level and me knowing this makes me more prepared to help students come to me with these issues not as just a teacher but also as a life skills coach where I can give them some different words of thought to ultimately change their perspective on what someone may think of a different race or learning style or even a different sexual orientation. I also have always been able to understand how to help people understand topics when a student may not understand how the teacher approached a certain subject if they taught in a green matter when the student may be an orange learner like myself. I also believe in always having a safe environment for all students to learn and participate daily with no tolerance for any negativity towards other students because they wouldn't know where someone comes from or the problems they might endure everyday to get to and from school let alone home life in-between. The fact that I’m prepared in this area makes me more well suited for other areas of teaching like the fact that I am always prepared to learn as a teacher.

As a teacher you should always be a life long learner which is what I personally have committed myself to being since beginning to understand teaching was my calling. I do this in a few ways, such as; engaging students in groups to understand what they took away from a les-

son to better understand what i taught well and what stuck to the student and what I may need to still improve on, knowing when to ask the students in my class to participate and when I need to take over to give further instruction on what a student might be presenting to the class to make sure the required goals are still being met, lastly I make sure that I always have a plan of action for the next day of class and don't fall behind and let the students see me struggling so I don't lose respect as an authority in the classroom. Engaging students can be as simple as having a lesson every other Monday that students must bring a current even from a world event that effects not just the smal circle of Sioux City, Iowa but the nation or even a different nation outside the US to show the importance of not just seeing the world of Sioux City but also to show that the world is going through some of the same issues we all might have as well. Using correct participation to make sure that they ask questions when they have them but also to not give them the reins and let them possibly miss key events that happened in the time period. This will all be accomplished by always staying ahead of the ball and not showing up to class without a plan of action for the day or even the week on a Monday after the weekend. One of the problems some teachers now have is that they teach to what they know and not to what needs to be known and I fear this could possibly happen with me as well.

My weakness in the classroom may come about most when I personally have to reflect on my teachings of the week or after seeing that the test results did not turn out the way I thought i had taught the students to be. I fear I could possibly struggle identifying areas of growth I may need to consider if the students do not ask questions after a lesson or seem to show me by body language they understand to then have a large percentage not do well on that aspect of the upcoming test. Another thing that might be hard to accomplish is gaining feedback from my students knowing some might take this chance as a joke rather than being honest and coming forward saying they understood the missed section of the test to say they really misunderstood a different section that everyone but that student had a better understanding of. This

might create a false sense of feedback knowing they might have been having an outside issue effect them for that lesson such as a home issue or a significant other breaking up with them right before that lesson was shown to them and the student not choosing to relay the issue to me to help better understand what is currently going on. Even personally critiquing myself I might figure I taught something well in my eyes that the students thought was completely lost in translation. I will have to learn to quickly adapt my lessons throughout the day so I can make sure to better prepare for the rest of the incoming classes full of students to come.

All these things help me understand how I personally can become the teacher that builds the blocks of the youth into a generation that will one day lead this nation and propel us to bigger and better things than any of us today could ever imagine. I will take both my strengths and weaknesses into account so that I can personally become a better educator and life long learner for both my students of the present and future. This will make me into a better person over all through thick and thin to make me the best teacher and life skill builder I can ever aspire to possibly become. This is no simple task and I am not, nor will I ever be perfect, but I devote myself to my students as an educator to make the most of what I can to give the students of tomorrow the best opportunity to succeed in the world today.