Leintz 1

My Teaching Philosophy

As an educator, I will help children grow as people in society, not just as students in a within a classroom. I will teach kids not only about basic skills, but life lessons that they can put to use in the future. I want to be the type of teacher that kids remember, not because of my school lessons, or because I taught them the basics of multiplication, but because they knew that I genuinely cared about each and every one of them and would listen to them. I do believe that learning the skills for the future is important, but I think that it is important for young students to grow as individuals. After all, they are the future of our society. Also, as a future teacher, I think that it is important to find ways for every student to learn. Every child has the ability to learn, so as a teacher I will be flexible and will make sure the students are not just memorizing, but actually learning the content. I will do these things by incorporating group discussions, maintaining an open classroom, and developing multiple ways for teaching and learning the content which will make it possible for each child to learn the way that best fits them.

It is important for a classroom to be a safe space for students. My goal is for my students to feel completely comfortable in my classroom. I will do this by building a relationship with each and every one of my students. I can do this by getting to know who they are as people, not only as students. I want to know what they are interested in, what they like or dislike. Students will not learn from someone they do not trust and feel comfortable with, so I will ensure that I build relationships with my students based upon trust and love. I hope to encourage students to share their thoughts without being afraid of judgement or being told they are wrong. I want them to be able to express themselves and say what they feel. It is important for students to be able to discuss with teachers all through school, so as a future educator, I hope to encourage them to speak up and find their voice. I can also do this by ensuring that my students are building

Leintz 2

relationships with each other as well. When they trust their classmates, they will feel safe within the educational setting. Then, as they grow older and further their education, they will be able to share in discussions without feeling afraid. I will also have my young students engage in group discussions. This is a great way for students to learn about their peers, build confidence, and truly learn how to use their own voice. By encouraging them to discuss, their confidence will improve which is an important part of growing up. I will encourage my students to take risks and teach them that making mistakes is perfectly okay. I will teach my students that there are so many valuable lessons that we can learn from making mistakes. When we make mistakes, we are learning and growing as people. I will teach my students the power of the word yet. We cannot say, "I can't do this," but we can say, "I am not sure how to do this yet, but I am going to learn."

As mentioned above, I want to find the best way to teach individual students based on how they learn best. I want my students to engage in authentic learning. I will provide the best support possible in order for them to be successful. I hope to incorporate more than one way of learning each subject so each student will have the chance to discover the content and actually understand it on a deeper level then just being able to take the test. Elementary school is when students learn the basics that will be used for the rest of their lives, such as reading, writing, and basic math, so it is essential to make sure each child is understanding the content. I plan on incorporating hands on activities for my lessons for the students who learn better through actually having something in their hands. For example, if the students are learning how to count, I would give them blocks so they can visually see the blocks as well as use their hands to count. I feel that it is important to incorporate different ways of learning so each child will understand.

Finally, I will be teaching my students more than just the educational skills needed for the future. I will teach my students life lessons that go far beyond the classroom. My students will

Leintz 3

learn how to respect themselves and their peers. Again, by holding group discussions and class discussions, they will learn how to respect others' thoughts and opinions. In my classroom, I will encourage my students to be the best version of themselves. I will teach them that each individual is special in their own way and that they should truly embrace who they are as people. I hope to teach them that hard work pays off in the long run and that they should make the most of all opportunities presented to them. It is important for them to learn these life lessons at a young age because they can use them for the rest of their lives.

In conclusion, my goal is to teach children more than just the skills needed to get good grades, but rather teach them life lessons that they can use the rest of their lives. I will build relationships, both teacher/student relationships and peer to peer relationships. I hope to help them to build confidence and to find their voice. Also, I want to find ways to ensure that every student is learning the content by providing many different opportunities for them to learn. I want to be the teacher to inspire my students to be the best person they can be in life. I want to show them that if they work hard they can do anything they set their mind to.