Education Philosophy

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My personal teaching philosophy is made up of three main points. That I must be pedagogically prepared to face any problems a student may face, all students can improve and it is up to the teacher to inspire and educate them, and all students are entitled to a safe and welcoming learning environment.

The responsibility for the students’ future is also entirely on the teacher as well. As a teacher, everything students will learn is in my hands. What they learn and how much they improve is dependent upon what I teach them. Any successes or failures a student receives rest on the shoulders of the teacher. If a student does not wish to try, I will hop to inspire him. If a student is confused about a subject I must be able to explain in any way they need. If a student fails it is because the I didn’t prepare them enough. In music an instructor will experience students of different abilities and backgrounds. As a musician, creativity, and perseverance are essential. Preparedness on the professor’s part will determine the success of the pupil. A broad knowledge of multiple instruments, eras of music, and techniques to improve upon is essential. I hope to prepare myself to the fullest extent on any such knowledge required for my lessons. I know that pedagogical knowledge is not enough.

Before anyone can teach they must first learn and be students themselves. Teachers should obviously be more knowledgeable on the subject they are teaching than their students, however being able to answer questions on music is not enough, teachers should be able to explain in multiple ways any problem a student may face. Each student learns differently, therefore a teacher must be well versed in many different teaching styles and techniques. All students from any background are capable of learning and improving and my ability to teach to a multitude of students is vital to that improvement. Knowledge on a subject and the knowledge of how to teach a subject are very different things. Any aspiring teacher must learn how he or she can relate knowledge to the minds of a student. Teaching and studying strategies must be properly developed and conveyed properly to the students.

One of the main skills teachers must have is the skill to communicate well. Teachers, particularly music educators, are constantly collaborating and sharing knowledge with different groups. Parents want to know what their children are learning. Students of course, want to learn the subjects of the course. Other teachers and colleagues may want to know about the methods others are using. Teachers must be professional and be able to communicate their ideas in a proficient and skilled way. Keeping kids of any age on task and focused can be a formidable challenge, but it is one educators face every day. When an instrument is in their hands they can’t be playing out of turn or unfocused as nothing will be accomplished.

At any grade level a safe environment is crucial to students learning. My classroom will always have an open environment for feedback that will allow students to be creative and ask questions. Music teachers face a large challenge in that they receive students from all different backgrounds and abilities who must be shaped to perform together as a cohesive unit. To be knowledgeable, personable, and persistent is vital when teacher such a large group of students. I take responsibility of my students learning, and the environment in which they have to learn in.

These three main points that I’ve developed through my education experiences are what I hope to bring with me and continue to develop in my teaching career. I hope to never stop learning and providing a continually prosperous classroom environment at any grade level.