“My Educational Platform”

Karl Goodman

University of St. Thomas

Dr. M. Papadimitriou

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 Education, people ask me “why did you choose education as your line of work?” The answer is simple; education is my calling, my purpose and my passion. Teaching is a challenge, one that I am glad I wake up every morning and hit the ground running to. Without education and teachers our children would not have the knowledge needed to become the doctors, lawyers or teachers they desire to be.

 I believe the purpose of education is to educate every student to the best of their ability and to insure that they are successful in their learning. Every student I feel can be successful in school if given the opportunity to learn, every student is teachable, it takes dedicated teachers to do the job.

The content of the school curriculum should be material that can be utilized in the student’s future. Students need to learn curriculum that will be beneficial to them, something that can to be used in their future career. It should be math, science, history and English, but it should also be hands on learning. Students should complete task in class that will help teach them a trade that can also be beneficial to their future.

The learning environment should be monitored or controlled by the teacher in the classroom. The teacher is ultimately the one that needs to run their class; they are the teacher, the curriculum provider, the disciplinary and the counselor. If they need assistance they need to turn to their administrators but this should be a last resort effort all measures are exhausted by the teacher. Good teaching skills and good discipline is the focus of good classroom management practices.

The relationship between teacher and student should one of professionalism. Teachers are at school to instill knowledge of the curriculum onto the students. Like I said earlier, they are there to be a counselor, mentor, advisor, educator and disciplinary. A student should be able to turn to a teacher for guidance and direction when they need it.

 I believe that student learning is best done within a stress free environment. If students have a lot going on in their home life or personal life it can be detrimental to their development. The conditions in which a student can learn best in would be a calm, none hectic atmosphere. Our students these days have so much to deal with, emotional and physically that it puts a strain on their learning. In order for them to learn and be successful at it we as educators need to make sure we understand why the student is having a bad day. We need to make sure that there is nothing physically wrong with that student.

 I believe that students are motivated to do well if they have something to look forward to. It could be an athlete looking to pass in order to play a sport, or a band member looking to go to a contest or just a student that really wants to be successful. Students can be motivated by teachers that show they care and they want that student to be successful. Students need teachers to pat them on the back and say “good job” or to tell them they messed up and they need to do better next time. I see student’s everyday longing for the attention and motivation that they do not receive from home.

My definition of effective teaching, is teaching students by challenging them to learn, making learning interesting and fun. Effective teaching is getting to know and understand your students, where they come from, how they learn and making sure that they are successful in their school career. Respect your students and they will respect you, set goals for them to achieve and learn from your students as they are learning from you. Effective teaching is the most important skill to making sure your students are successful and that you as a teacher are successful.

I would say being able to fully understand your students and their need for a since of belonging is a personal characteristic that a successful teacher should possess. Teachers need to be hard on students at times and need to know when to be soft at other times. A teacher needs to be focused, caring, understanding, compassionate and a good listener, these are all characteristics that I believe a successful teachers needs in order to be successful in the classroom.

All students learn differently, some are great memorizers, some are great note takers, some are great testers, and some are great cheaters. Teachers should assess students learning through a variety of ways. Teachers should give written assessments in the form of content based test that will test student knowledge of the content and material that is taught. These test can be multiple choice, true or false, matching or fill in the blank. I find these types of assessments not to be as challenging as others. Short answer assessments are great tools because it will allow the teacher to really see who is paying attention in class and learning the material and who is not. This will also allow the teacher to modify their teaching style to accommodate all of the students learning styles. Assessment should not be a gotcha; it should be a way for a teacher to see who is doing well and who still needs a little help in understanding the material.

I believe a good school is one that opens its doors to all students and that has the student’s best interest at heart. I believe that every student that comes through those doors are entitled to an education and that they can be successful. I do not necessarily care about the students back ground history as they come into the school, I believe in allowing that student to start fresh with a clean sleight if they are new to the school. We are here to do a job and that is to make sure every student is successful and that no student is left behind in the process. A good school will have great teachers, who love their job and love working with students to instill the content knowledge in them that they will need to be successful.

 I believe that every student can be successful in school; it depends on how successful the teachers want to be. My main focus is to make sure that my students are getting the material that I have for them and that they are learning. I take great pride in my students learning and success. If I can make sure that students feel wanted, needed and that they are learning to the best of their ability then I know I am doing my job right. I believe in being the role model, the educator, the counselor, the mentor, the advisor and the disciplinarian. I look forward to my job and the lives that I can change and impact from year to year.