

Reflection and Self-Evaluation

Insights on Teaching and Learning

A 1. The most successful and rewarding part of student teaching would have to be the entire experience. There aren't very many people who make it this far, and I am beyond blessed to have experienced the past four years. It was very rewarding to see what I could do in the classroom. To put everything that I have learned at WVSU to the test, and to see what I could master just during student teaching. That was very rewarding!

Having students connecting the dots and wanting to come to my class was very rewarding. They were eager to see what I had planned and what type of activity I had chosen to entice them. I believe the most successful part for me was just building relationships with students. It was scary going into a very diverse school, but I loved every single minute of it. I have students who see me outside of class/school and run up to me just to say how much they love my class and find it very interesting. That is the most amazing feeling in the world!

A 2. The least successful was definitely classroom management. It got much better during the end of student teaching, but I still need a lot of work. I also know now it depends on the class. It depends on the type of students and attitude of the day. Classroom management is a continuous cycle that needs to be worked on every day. As soon as I thought I had everything under control (BAM) I would have to take two steps back and one step forward.

I also found it really difficult to work in the same room with another teacher. He had his stuff, and I had mine. I felt like it was a constant battle trying to keep up with papers, where this was, and who moved that, who took that, and so on. I am a very organized person and I feel very stressed when things are cluttered in the room.

A 3. During my time at WVSU I was taught to build relationships with students, build their trust, find what they are interested in, and build upon that. That's exactly what I tried to do and of course it worked. The research and best practice came from every class and every book I have had for my education classes. Not only from those books, but the teacher text books given to me from Pearson Health, websites such as CDC.org and kidshealth.org. All of these are the best practices and researches for education to date.

References:

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Implications for Future Teaching

B 1. To improve my student's performance in the future I need to plan better ahead of time. I wasn't really sure what to plan or exactly how to plan before student teaching. Now that I have a pretty good idea of what to do and how/ when to plan ahead of time I think that this will bring up my students performance because I will be better prepared for what I want the students to learn and be able to do in the end.

B 2. My background knowledge and experience has contributed to a greater understanding of the material being presented to the students to be used in the future endeavors. I can attend professional development opportunities, collaborate with other allied health professionals, continue to join more professional organizations, and continue to take classes toward a master's degree.

Professional Growth

Professional Collaborative Practice

C 1. I did get a lot of feedback from supervisors and other teachers. Capital High School now has the applied arts department collaborating at least one period a day in order to further educate their students in health. During this time I have the opportunity to get feedback and constructive criticism from fellow applied art teachers. Not only do I get feedback and information and ideas from health teachers I also have the opportunity to talk with teachers who are certified to teach nutrition, physical education, parenting, cooking, and lifetime fitness. They have been a great source and we have become really good friends.

Not only have I got the opportunity to receive wonderful feedback and ideas from teachers at Capital High School I have had the chance to work and collaborate with Jack Hudson who is also a student teacher from WVSU. He came into Capital High School the last six weeks of my student teaching and was placed in another health class two doors down the hall. We were able to work on lesson plans, activities, and finding standards and objectives for our classes.

C 2. Two personal professional strengths that emerged during this unit was planning, organization, and classroom management. When I finally got to teach something that I had planned weeks ahead of time and knew exactly what I was going to do is when I realized that my planning and organization really paid off. I already knew from observations and teaching in previous schools that my lessons could go several different ways than what I had planned. I did prepare for this and I was ready for students who finished early, lessons that finished early, and if technology failed.

This really helped during the unit along with being organized in my brain, classroom, and folders. I prepared each day during first period planning for each class, so that I would be ready to teach. This included using the bathroom, loading all materials on the computer and projector. All of my planning and organization

made it easier for me to address classroom management. I learned during this unit that these three things go hand in hand.

Professional Collaborative Practice

C 3. Two personal professional weaknesses that emerged during this unit was time management “taking and sending attendance in a timely manner” and how to grade tests easier and faster. I need to find ways that are easier and faster for me to take attendance. At Capital High School you must make a paper copy and send attendance in through Engrade the first five minutes of class. This is really difficult for me. I never thought of this even being a problem. It take up a lot of time especially when you don’t know each student, and there are over 40 of them in the room. I need to find a new creative way to take attendance.

Mrs. Davis is one of the other health teachers at Capital High School and she has given me lots of advice. She gave me some really good advice about taking attendance. She lets her students sign in to class as they walk in, but they use the smart board to sign in. I do not have a smart board in the room I am currently in, but I’m seeking out other ways to improve on this. I have been asking Kappa Delta Pi members because I am a member myself. I have gotten some really good feedback from these teachers from across the globe. Some teachers let students use something sort of like an old fashion clock in and clock out of work card.

C 4.

My university supervisor and my cooperating teacher taught me how to create tests and quizzes on Engrade. I thought this was really fun and interesting. I was very shocked to find out that Engrade will actually grade most of the tests for you. This saves a lot of time! They taught me how to use the different types of questions Engrade offers. For example, cloze questions and bucketing. This is a whole new way for students take tests and the best part is that I can actually read what they are trying to write. The hand writing of most of these students is very complicated to read, but I understand that it is because they are growing up in a technological world and typing/texting is what they are used to.

It felt odd to let the students take tests on their Ipads and then grade all tests on a computer, but I have gotten used to it. I am not perfect, and I don’t think that I ever will be. Teaching is something that takes time, patience, and cooperation. I do plan to seek out more professional developments in the future and join more teacher organizations. I plan to continue my education to reach a master’s degree. I plan to continue classes at West Virginia State University until I have fulfilled the

requirements for physical education as well. I plan to substitute in different schools, and counties to learn and experience various types of schools, teachers, and students.

