

Professional Learning Network

Danielson, C., Furman, J. S., & Kappes, L. (n.d.). Enhancing Professional Practice .

<https://files.ascd.org/pdfs/publications/books/Every-Connection-Matters-sample-chapters.pdf>

In this text, the authors thoroughly discuss the significance of creating connections in the classroom. It is clear that strong teacher-to- self, student, family, teacher, administration, and faculty relationships lead to a stronger education. This text emphasizes that relationships in education correlate with power, the influence of staff and students, and the effectiveness of teacher retention. The authors of this text also explain the importance of building, maintaining, and restoring relationships. They make clear that it is what “drives” the work that educators work hard for. These authors wrap up the text with reflective questions to get us truly thinking about creating connections and relationships. Some of these include what in regards to connections have we noticed/been a part of. How can we build meaningful connections inside and outside of the classroom? I have acknowledged from this source that in my future classroom, we must reflect on the relationships in school and how they affect our impact as an educator. This text helps me understand and dig deeper into connections leading to resilient relationships. Educators must strive to create this kind of atmosphere inside and outside of their classrooms.

Killion /author/joellen-killion, J., & Hirsh /author/stephanie-hirsh, S. (2022, March 8).

The elements of effective teaching. Learning Forward - The Professional Learning Association.

<https://learningforward.org/journal/effective-teaching/the-elements-of-effective-teaching/>

In this text, the authors, Killon and Hirsh, emphasize important elements of effective teaching. They make clear effective teaching leads to continuous improvement and student achievement. Effective personal learning is the most “powerful pathway” in promoting consistent achievement

in teaching. They also explained the need for the Common Core State Standards are essential because they specify expectations for student learning outcomes. Generating a vision for sufficient learning leads to increased achievement. Killon and Hirsh finish the text by discussing the importance of collaboration and engagement among educators. This provides teachers with the opportunity to examine and reflect on their work together. This allows teachers to share ideas and help benefit one another. This text is useful for me as a future educator as it helps me understand the kind of leadership that is required. Effective teaching requires skillful leadership to build capacity and structure in sufficient learning.

M., A. (n.d.). *Make your day*. TikTok. <https://www.tiktok.com/@daysinkinder>

This particular source by Allie M. on TikTok includes various visual examples of how an efficient classroom is managed. It is clear that Allie has passion when it comes to instructing her kindergarten students. She props her camera for us viewers to be able to watch and learn. Because her TikTok account is open for many to see, she shares tips, tools, and lesson plans that she puts together and how they worked out. She is known for her interactive activities full of creativity and preparation to allow her students to become more knowledgeable. This account is useful for me as a future educator as it allows me to notice what a highly impactful classroom looks like. These types of videos, especially Allie's, immediately grab my attention and leave me with more knowledge than before. The point of view of the camera allows me to notice what and how her students are taught. This enables me to learn and understand the vibrant impact that an effective teacher like Allie has.

Perkins, D. (2024, February 27). *12 research-based effective teaching strategies*. ThoughtStretchers Education. <https://wegrowteachers.com/12-effective-teaching-strategies/>

Incorporated in this text, Perkins includes a list of 12 effective teaching strategies that have been research-based. He makes it clear that incorporating these evidence-based principles empowers teachers to create beneficial learning communities. The main takeaway of these strategies is establishing a goal oriented atmosphere for all students to succeed in. Perkins emphasizes how this aligns with gaining insights into student proficiency and creating impactful instruction for all. This particular text emphasizes impactful instruction for every student and their individualized goals. These communities filled with teaching strategies motivates students to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. With this research, educators can embark on a transformative journey towards unlocking the full potential of all learners. This helps me understand that implementing these strategies creates the path towards educational excellence and student success. As educators, we have to aim for creating enriching learning experiences.

Rued Riis, Teacher Effectiveness: 5 Characteristics of Quality Teaching. (2022). YouTube. Retrieved 2024, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvpsS42URgA>.

This particular Youtube video by Rued Riis embraces the idea that the point of departure as a teacher has to be that students can learn and that teachers have a responsibility to help their students. With this mindset, there are 5 characteristics of quality teaching that go hand-in-hand. Riis emphasizes building clear structures for lessons allowing lessons and activities to flow and create understanding. The importance of presenting elements of enthusiasm goes a long way in the classroom as well. Riis includes that this is incredibly effective in maintaining student affection and it models a positive attitude towards learning. Although this source is short and sweet, it aids my understanding of quality teaching. Becoming an educator involves an abundance of reliability. As a future educator, I have learned from this video that praising these qualities in my classroom

links to achievement for myself and students. Educators cannot be afraid to implement qualities like these in their classroom if they want to create a sufficient atmosphere for their students.

Will, M. (2022, May 10). *What should culturally relevant teaching look like today? Gloria Ladson-Billings explains*. Education Week.

<https://www.edweek.org/leadership/what-should-culturally-relevant-teaching-look-like-today-gloria-ladson-billings-explains/2022/04>

Gloria Ladson-Billings work emphasizes that culturally relevant teaching goes beyond superficial celebrations of diversity and focuses on fostering academic success, cultural competence, and sociopolitical consciousness. She highlights the need for educators to connect students' cultural identities to their learning experiences while also addressing systemic inequalities in education. This source is incredibly useful for myself and all educators as it provides a clear framework for creating inclusive and empowering learning environments. It helps expand my understanding in how to design lessons that students can engage in academically and enable them to critically analyze societal issues. This source deepens my understanding of how teaching practices can empower students to critically engage with issues in society. This, of course, is an essential skill for developing inclusive and equitable learning environments. In general, it is massively important that when I become a teacher, I make a very strong effort in completing the goal of fostering equity and justice.

College of Education, University of Iowa. (2024, December 8). *Effective professional development for educators: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS*. University of Iowa.

<https://onlineprograms.education.uiowa.edu/blog/effective-professional-development-for-educators>

This article emphasizes that effective professional development for educators involves continuous learning to adapt to evolving educational landscapes, including demographic changes and policy shifts. It highlights the importance of active learning, collaboration, and addressing classroom-relevant topics to enhance teaching strategies and student engagement. This source is valuable for myself and other educators as it provides insights into designing professional growth opportunities that are practical and impactful. It reinforces the need for lifelong learning and equips educators with tools to create dynamic, student-centered classrooms. It also aligns with the goal of fostering meaningful and effective teaching practices. It is important to me that professional development is data-driven ensuring effectiveness in improving both teaching practices and student outcomes. There should be a focus on approaching professional growth with intentionality, continuously seeking opportunities that enhance the overall learning experience.

Samuels, A. J. (2018). *Ed. Exploring Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: Teachers' Perspectives on Fostering Equitable and Inclusive Classrooms*. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1166706.pdf>

This article explores culturally responsive pedagogy emphasizing the importance of creating equitable and inclusive environments. It explains that an equitable and inclusive classroom connects students' cultural backgrounds to their learning experiences apart from any biases. It highlights strategies for fostering cultural competence, addressing biases, and challenging systemic barriers in education. This particular source is incredibly valuable for teacher candidates including myself because it provides practical approaches to implementing culturally responsive teaching. This includes both reflective practices and inclusive strategies. It enhances my understanding of how to create learning environments that truly empower diverse student populations aligning with the goal of fostering equity and inclusion in every aspect of education. This article is a strong reminder of the commitment required to examine personal biases and

develop strategies that ensure equity and inclusivity in all teaching practices. It is a long term goal of mine to build culturally responsive relationships with students, families, and communities to create a supportive learning environment.

Each of these three new sources implement ways that I can learn and grow as a future educator. I am more mindful about the significance of culturally relevant and responsive teachings in the classroom and their effective and ineffective aspects. They all align with the fact that educators must strive to enhance their students and overall classroom environment in the best way possible. Incorporating the students' backgrounds into the mix leads to meaningful learning. Fostering an atmosphere where this takes place allows students to gain more knowledge and confidence in themselves and each other. All of this begins from the educator and spreads in the classroom.

All in all, this is all related to the topic of quality and efficiency. Each concept incorporated in these three sources brings clarity towards the creation of a sufficient educational atmosphere. All around, these new sources circle around the theme of growing a united classroom. A classroom environment grows so rich where inclusion and acceptance is known. I hope to use all of what I learned and implement these ideas into my classroom. I plan to continue to use these sources as references to look back on when needed for not only myself but for the future generations that I will leave a mark on.

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