

## **Standard 5**

### **Educators implement effective practices in areas of planning, instruction, assessment, evaluation and reporting.**

As a future teacher, understanding a student's strengths and weaknesses is fundamental in fostering a constructive learning environment. Furthermore, I need to be aware that each student is unique and I need to cater my teachings and teaching styles to their specific needs. In order to successfully achieve this in the classroom, I believe that I need to approach lessons with a large degree of flexibility. Although planning a lesson is imperative with regards to the flow of the class, I need to realize that there are useful times to stop a class in order to simplify/expand on a specific concept.

Awareness of student diversity in the classroom is also essential in terms of assessment techniques. That is, many students do not possess an aptitude for certain types of assessment. For example, in a physical education class, one of my students may not be the best athlete. However, by the end of my class, they may acquire a keen grasp of game strategies and tactics and be able to apply them in a game situation. For this student, I feel that assessing them based on their athletic skill is inappropriate; assessing students on their given abilities is unjust. As a teacher, I want to check for understanding in my classroom and assess on that instead of performance. The more times I can incorporate various forms of formative assessment like this within my classroom, the better.

Finally, as a teacher, I recognize that I will not be able to answer every question a student asks me. Instead of giving a blind (and potentially incorrect) response, I will be sure to seek additional support in times of need. Moreover, certain students may possess certain learning challenges or have special needs that I am not experienced in dealing with. Seeking professional guidance and support is fundamental to ensure that I am having a positive influence on student learning.

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