Interviewing Questions for Teachers

CSU East Bay, Academic Advising and Career Education, Connecting Curriculum and Career

Motivation and Personality

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What motivated you to enter teaching?
3. Why have you selected education as a profession?
4. Tell me about the teacher you would most like to emulate and why?
5. Why did you decide to enter the field of education and your subject area in particular?
6. Why did you want to become a teacher?
7. What do you enjoy most about teaching?
8. What do you feel would be the most significant contribution you could make to our district?

Future Career Goals

1. How long would you plan to teach at this district?
2. What is there about you that would cause us to hire you over others?
3. Are you interested in moving to this area?
4. What are your future career goals...educational and professional?
5. What do you expect to be doing five years from now?

Teaching Techniques and Style

1. What approaches or techniques work best for you in teaching?
2. Explain your style of teaching -- strategies, methodologies, techniques.
3. What innovative ideas would you like to use in your classroom?
4. Describe what I would see if I walked into your classroom while school was in session.
5. What is your grading philosophy?
6. What are the traits of a good teacher?
7. Please tell me about your best/worst teaching experience.
8. What do you feel are your greatest teaching strengths? What seem to be your greatest teaching weaknesses?
9. What lesson components do you include in your teaching?
10. How would you approach your first assignment?
11. How would you incorporate all aspects of curriculum in your lessons?
12. How do you accommodate individual differences?
13. What experiences have you had with implementing individualization?
14. What steps would you take to improve a student's self-concept?
15. What techniques would you use to motivate students?
16. How would you motivate the hard-to-reach child?
17. What techniques do you use to reach students?
18. What responsibilities will your students have for their learning?
19. What are your ideas about discipline?
20. How do you practice good classroom management?
21. What are your convictions regarding discipline?
22. Would you feel comfortable when teaching the educationally and culturally deprived child?
23. What is your greatest concern when in a classroom?
24. What do you see as the role of the teacher in the school?
25. What are your extra-curricular interests and hobbies?
26. Are you willing to accept added responsibilities?
27. How do you receive feedback/appropriate criticism?
28. How will you evaluate your teaching performance?
29. How would you define teaching as a profession?
30. How do you keep current in the field?
Academic Preparation
1. What are your areas of certification?
2. Tell me more about your other college coursework.

Student Teaching Experience
1. Please tell me about your practice teaching and other work experiences with children.
2. Did you enjoy your student teaching? Why or why not?
3. Tell me about your class during student teaching. What was the highlight?
4. What was the worst problem you had when student teaching? How did you handle it?
5. How did you generate the desire to learn in your students?
6. Describe one activity or lesson that you were particularly proud of during your student teaching experience.
7. What adjectives would your students use to describe you?
8. Did you have any discipline problems? If not, how do you account for that? If so, what behavior modification method did you use?
9. How would you judge your success as a teacher?
10. Describe your community and parent involvement.
11. Tell me about your experiences in teaching ethnically diverse students?
12. What are your strengths when working with students?

Knowledge of the Employer
1. What do you think you could contribute to our school system?
2. What do you know about our school district? Town?
3. Why do you want to be a teacher in our district?
4. What do you wish to contribute to our school and our children?

Hypothetical Questions
1. What would you do if:
   o You caught a student cheating?
   o A student never had his homework completed?
   o A student seemed to be an outcast in the class?
   o You knew a student had a very serious personal problem?
2. How would you communicate with parents?
3. How would you start your first day of school with students?
4. How will you go about meeting the needs of exceptional students?
5. Describe the best teacher you have known.
6. Do you view the role of the teacher as instructor or facilitator?
7. What strategies do you use to evoke higher order thinking?
8. How important is it for you as a teacher to assist in the development of a positive self-concept in students? How would you do this?
9. What is your greatest strength as a teacher?
10. What evidence can you share that students learn from and respond to you?
11. Explain those teaching strategies that have been most successful for you? Why?
12. If money was unlimited, how would you improve education?

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Academic Advising and Career Education
“Connecting Curriculum and Career”
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