

Reflection

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Clinical Teacher

From watching my clinical teacher, I got the impression that she wants to do the right things, but she is unsure or tired from how the students behave. The environment isn't one that feels including or centered around the students. The classes are setup for certain events to take place and if something doesn't go as planned the class breaks down. Time management is also an issue. Attendance takes longer than it needs to and then students are allotted time to change their clothes. All these interactions lead to less time for activities. The clinical teacher is also more reactionary to student discipline and not setting up an environment conducive to limiting student misbehavior. There is too much lag time and students react to this with talking to one another out of turn and horse playing. There were moments that I felt she wanted things to change and run better, but she was pretty established in wanting to run things her way. She felt like adjusting her class to the students would be giving into them and not including them.

Her style of teaching was very command and direct teaching oriented. The room for student growth or incorporation was lacking. In the health classroom I feel she was better at managing the students, but this may be a result of it being only her class in the room and a more confined space. The lessons were very dry and not student engaging. Student inclusion in the lesson was minimal and conversations about the subject were cut short.

My Teaching

I got the chance to teach a few Physical Education lessons Health lessons after observing my clinical teaching in each area. It was a struggle in the beginning for me due to me not having a strong connection with the students and the other teachers wanting to step in to try and correct student misbehavior. I would have liked to have been separated from the other class in the gym and the other teachers. I don't know if it would've gone better, but the interference I was

receiving became a hinderance for me moving my lessons further. The Health classroom proved to be a better environment, but still came with its own struggles. My clinical teacher still wanted to step in and correct student behavior. I also feel I had to stick more to the criteria and less of how I tried to create a facilitating environment where discussion and student engagement was the center. After observing and teaching I now know that creating a student-centered class where they take ownership of their education is how I want to my classes to run. I also feel that creating a strong relationship with the students is necessary to have them respect and listen to you.

Punishment minded enforcement is not the avenue that students need. More positive encouragement is needed for the students to want to listen and participate. The students presented challenges with how they behaved, but I feel that creating the relationship with them will help elevate some of the issues.