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Professional Development Plan

Do you want to be an ECI or ECP major? Why?

I would like to specialize my early childhood degree in children of preschool age to early school age. I would prefer to specialize in children older than infants because it is easier to help shape these children as they are in the age where they absorb everything like a sponge. I feel like when children are in the early school age, their minds are open to learning so much and at this age children can communicate verbally unlike with infants. The most amazing feeling is being able to see a child's smile when they have learned or accomplished something new. I feel like teachers have a unique job and that is the ability to teach a child. Being able to teach children can show children that wanting to learn new things is what truly makes us gifted.

What qualities do you have that will help you be successful working with your chosen age group?

To be a teacher of young children you need to have a lot of patience. Becoming a mother has helped me gain a lot of patience. At that age children are extremely active so being a teacher you need to be able to have patience and let the child express themselves even if that means moving around and playing. To be a teacher you also need to have a warm demeanor. Possessing this quality, allows the child to gain trust in their caregiver. If a child knows they can trust you then they will allow you to teach them.

What skills would you like to develop that will help you be more effective working with that age group?

One of the skills I would like to develop is being able to learn different teaching techniques for different children. It is extremely important as a teacher to constantly change your teaching style as all children learn in different ways. I would like to be the kind of teacher that is able to adapt my teaching style depending on an individual child's needs.

What are your career goals?

My overall goal is to become a teacher to a group of early school age children, preferably between the grades of kindergarten to second grade. I want to be able to open a program to help the development of young children. I just want to help make a positive change in a child's life and help them see that constantly learning things is a beautiful thing.

What steps will you take to achieve those career goals?

After completing my time at BMCC, I want to transfer into Columbia University to gain my Bachelor's. In the meantime, while attending school I want to be working along with a teacher of early elementary children to gain experience and to learn from someone who has been teaching for a while. After gaining my Bachelors, I want to be able to teach a class of my own during school hours while attending night classes to get my Master's degree.

What steps will you take at BMCC to help you reach those goals?

BMCC will help me reach my goals as here I am learning the qualities you need to possess to be a teacher. Being enrolled at BMCC has assured me that I am meant to be a teacher, I know that teaching young children is my calling. When I first started attending classes I was unsure of

what career I should follow but choosing early childhood education was the best move I have made career wise.