



Standard 6: Educators have a broad knowledge base and understand the subject areas they teach

1. The chosen evidence is the powerpoint presentation of a group inquiry project on how to motivate reluctant readers and help them enjoy reading. I was drawn to researching this question during my English Language Arts Methods class after noticing that several students in my practicum classroom were disengaged during their daily independent reading time. A lot of my colleagues in the education program also shared that they disliked reading, especially the reading that was “forced” on them in school. Because I only ever remembered loving to read from a very young age, I felt like I needed to learn more about reluctant readers in order to be able to properly support the students in my class who did not enjoy reading. This inquiry project helped me understand that there are different types of reluctant readers. I also discovered that, depending on the type of reluctant reader, various strategies and resources could be used to help them engage in reading activities.

2. I chose this evidence in relation to Standard 6 because it demonstrates that I have developed a conceptual understanding of the challenges posed by reluctant readers and that I have developed a toolkit of resources and strategies to address these challenges. This will help me in becoming a more effective Language Arts teacher. I can apply this knowledge everyday in the classroom in order to offer a more engaging learning experience to my students. This inquiry project also demonstrates that I have the capacity to identify questions that I need to investigate in order to better serve my students and that I have the research skills necessary in order to find answers to those questions.

3. This standard is important to me as a new teacher because being knowledgeable of the concepts and methodologies related to teaching will help me become an effective teacher. It is easier to teach students when we have a solid understanding of the concepts and when we can differentiate the methods and strategies for teaching them according to the different types of learners. As I move forward, I ask myself: How can I plan for more self-directed and inquiry based learning in order to allow each student to develop Language Arts skills and knowledge while exploring topics that they are truly interested in?