

# TEACHER CANDIDATE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

## Personal Information

- Why did you go into teaching?
- Why did you choose your field of study
- Who was the most significant person promoting your interest to become a teacher and why?
- Tell me about your favorite teacher
- How did you fund your college education?
- Tell us about the most beneficial course you had in college.
- What five words would you use to describe yourself?
- Have you had employment outside of education? What impact has this had on your education? Teaching?
- Do you think your grades are a good indication of your academic achievement?
- Tell me about your educational background as it relates to this position.
- Briefly describe your background preparation for this position.
- What qualifications do you bring to the team at the school you are hired?
- How do you get excited about learning?
- What resources would you need to do your job effectively?
- What types of extra-curricular activities were you involved in high school and college and what would you be willing to direct if you were hired to work in our district?
- Professionalism – what is it?
- What are your 5 year professional goals?
- What are your other interests and abilities?
- Describe your organized skills.
- What motivates you?
- What are your areas of growth? What skills do you need to learn?
- What do you consider your strengths?
- How do you handle stress?

## Classroom Management

- How would you like your students to describe you?
- Describe the process you would use to deal with a student who was disrupting the class.
- What class rule would you establish?
- What is your discipline philosophy? How do you handle disruptive students?
- What steps would you take before sending student to the office?
- How would you handle student defiance?
- How would you react to a student who challenges you authority?
- What are some classroom management strategies you have found successful?
- What are characteristics of a well-managed classroom?
- Please describe one discipline technique you have found to be effective and describe why the technique works.
- What rules do you think are essential for a quality classroom?

- What have you found to be the toughest aspect of discipline?
- What is your philosophy of discipline? How would you set up your discipline program?
- Describe your behavior management program for your classroom. Why did you select this type of program?
- Who should be responsible for the discipline in your school?

### **Curriculum/Evaluation**

- Describe your ideal classroom.
- Describe your ideal teaching situation.
- What is a typical day in your classroom?
- If I were to come into a classroom in which you were teaching, what could I expect to see?
- How do you build rapport with your students?
- Describe your student teaching. What was the most rewarding experience and what was the most frustrating?
- Concentrate on the student teaching experience: best day, worst thing, surprises...
- Explain a lesson plan you are most proud of.
- Describe a lesson plan.
- What are some new ideas you will be implementing in your classroom?
- How do you develop lesson plans?
- What did you learn from a failed lesson plan?
- What types of assessments do you use?
- Describe parts of your portfolio that best indicate your teaching style and beliefs.
- What are your strategies for student success and how would you convey these to teachers?