Student List of Professional Dispositions*

One important aspect of your education here with us is the development of professional dispositions—ways of working, thinking, and interacting with others—in three areas: Professionalism, Work Ethic, and Communication Skills. In order to support your development in these areas we are sharing with you a list of key dispositions. Failure to demonstrate these dispositions through your behaviors at any point in the program may jeopardize your continuation in your program. We expect you to monitor your own development of these professional dispositions, beginning now and continuing throughout your teaching career.

Communication Skills*

1. Demonstrate appropriate verbal communication.
2. Demonstrate appropriate written communication.
3. Demonstrate a disposition toward inquiry and problem solving.
4. Work collaboratively with parents, colleagues, and professionals.
5. Demonstrate consistently positive attitudes toward learning and teaching.
6. Accept responsibility for decisions and actions.
7. Establish and maintain mutually respectful interactions.

Work Ethic*

8. Demonstrate regular attendance.
9. Demonstrate punctuality.
10. Complete work in a timely manner.
11. Demonstrate organizational skills.
12. Observe all pertinent policies and procedures.

Professionalism*

13. Demonstrate a commitment to working with children, youth, and their families in developmentally appropriate ways.
14. Demonstrate an awareness of community, state, national, and world contexts that have an impact on the teaching profession and learning process.
15. Treat university faculty/staff, colleagues, parents, and students fairly, equitably, and respectfully.
17. Express and demonstrate interest in and enthusiasm for teaching and learning.
18. Adapt to new and diverse learning situations.
19. Accept diverse learners and their needs.
20. Adapt to differences among people including differences in SES, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, language, etc.
21. Maintain confidentiality about student records unless disclosure serves a professionally compelling purpose or is required by law.
22. Demonstrate discretion when discussing colleagues, faculty, field sites, and personal information.
23. Respect the view points of others.
24. Develop and explain professional judgments using research-based theory and practice.
25. Contribute meaningfully and appropriately to discussions by asking questions and giving opinions, and listening to others.
26. Project an appropriate professional appearance in professional settings.
27. Project an appropriate professional demeanor in professional settings.
28. Accept leadership opportunities.
29. Understand and practice professional ethical standards.

*These disposition statements have been modified slightly from Kent State University