

## **Statement of My Philosophy of Education**

I am a pragmatist who believes in learning, listening, and doing. I believe everyone can learn, but those who can, teach, serve, and lead. My role as an educator is to uplift humanity. To achieve this goal, I must be knowledgeable about my subject matter, value individual differences, and respect multidimensional voices as I look for innovative strategies to reach all students, including atypical students who have potential to be misidentified, misassessed, miscategorized, misplaced, and misinstructed. As an educator, I believe in maximizing the potential of all my students. As a result, I have to provide instruction that is different from, supplementary with, and additional to those provided in traditional instructional environments. In other words, I have to modify and adapt instruction as needed. It is critical that I believe in “quality with a heart” and in the quality that is developed through collaborative, consultative, and cooperative engagements and activities. As a teacher, I love to experiment and experience new ideas and new thinking while also respecting systemic cultures and traditions. For me, it is imperative that I create avenues that enhance quality partnership and teamwork where voices of parents and stakeholders are heard. I am fundamentally guided by the teaching principle that believes “no one can climb a tree without support.”