

Calvin College Final Secondary Student Teaching Evaluation

Comments provided by: mentor teacher
Student Teacher: Yonkers, Karen
Dates of Experience: Spring Semester (February - May, 2018)
College Supervisor: Bowman, Sarah
Cooperating Teacher: Gurk, Shawn
School: Wyoming Junior High, High School
City: Wyoming, MI
Grade Level: 7-12
Subject Areas: Band
Date: 5/16/2018

Comment on the candidate's knowledge in relevant content areas.

Karen came to us with much knowledge regarding the sounds that she wanted and the rehearsal techniques in order to achieve and maintain those sounds.

Comment on the candidate's understanding of the multiple factors that influence student learning.

Karen has had much experience teaching one-on-one. She has had the time to observe students for who they are - people. In our classrooms, Karen got to know our students a little bit more, and came to some understandings of our kids that allowed her to make meaningful teaching decisions.

Comment on the candidate's ability to create effective lessons, including appropriate assessments that are meaningful for all learners.

Karen's approaches were great, combining the different learning styles with different methods of teaching.

Comment on the candidate's professionalism and care for students as demonstrated in his/her communication.

Karen is a very laid back individual. This, at times, causes here to come across as being snarky. She also is a Mom and Grandma, and while she sometimes seems like she is being snippy, she has a way of caring and expressing love while doing so. Karen is great with feedback regarding the students' playing, and does a great job of presenting positive encouragement.

Comment on the candidate's professionalism and care for students as demonstrated in his/her dispositions and behaviors.

Karen was terrific with the kids and also with us. She was very teachable and flexible, and engaged in conversation regarding teaching styles with passion. She was never unprofessional with the students or her cooperating teachers.

Comment on the candidate's professionalism and care for students as demonstrated in his/her ability to develop positive and productive learning communities.

Karen adapted to our band program's methodology while keeping her own autonomy. She acclimated to school policy and terminology when structuring and delivering her lessons.

Publicly Funded Schools: Teacher candidates at Calvin College are nurtured and challenged to develop a principled perspective that informs their teaching, content, and vision for education and its connection to society. Comment on how well the teacher candidate articulates and enacts this perspective.

We discussed religion a few times. Karen is very solid in what she believes, but is also accepting and tolerating of others.

Summary Comments:

Karen is going to be a terrific teacher! She has made great improvements in the area of pacing, clarity of explanation, prepping students for success, and producing a healthy balance of criticism and praise. She made a lot of progress and displayed a teachable attitude.