**My Education Philosophy**

**(this is a working document and is changing based on new evidence-based practices)**

* ALL students are welcome in my classroom regardless of:
  + Citizenship Status
  + Gender Identity
  + Sexual Orientation
  + Gender Expression
  + Race
  + Ethnicity
  + Religion
  + Social Economic Status
  + Disability Status
    - Let me know if I missed anyone
* I am an active learner and always looking to improve my teaching
* Students need to feel loved and accepted in my classroom
* There is never a “bad question” to ask in class; students need to be explorers of the world around them
* EVERY student is a(n)
  + Mathematician
  + Reader
  + Writer
  + Scientist
  + Historian
  + Explorer
  + Learner
* There is no “I cannot” …only something you cannot do YET
* Mistakes are welcomed, accepted, and appreciated
* Students need to make mistakes to learn and to grow in their learning
* Each day is a new day -- you can always turn your day around at any point and start again to improve your behavior
* I am there to be a mentor and guide students to discover/view themselves as learners who will form their own opinions and reasoning
* Students need social-emotional learning and 21st century skills
* I use Zones of Regulation and calming corners to help students express and manage their emotions
* Students should develop open, global, and growth mindsets
* Students will learn about their own identities as well as identities from people of other cultures
* Students will write and read everyday for a few minutes with materials they have picked (student choice)
* Our classroom will have an up to date and leveled library where students can add their own writing as well
* Differentiation is useful and different types of learners need to be acknowledged
* Explicit phonemic awareness and phonics teaching are essential for early readers
* Word walls need to stay updated and available for all students to manipulate for various subjects
* I like *Teach like a Champion* techniques for informal assessments and keeping students engaged
* Students need time to get up and move around during lessons
* Students can learn from each other:
  + Pair-shares
  + Strategic Seating