

SAMPLE TEACHER INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

CURRICULUM/SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- If you were hired to teach starting this September, how would you go about setting up your reading program?
- What reading programs do you have experience with?
- How would you decide on groups in mathematics?
- Do you prefer homogeneous or heterogeneous grouping? Why?
- What does individualized teaching mean to you?
- How can you tell students are learning? Evaluation techniques?
- How would you individualize the learning process in your classroom?
- Name some ways that a student in a group can show you he has the concept?
- In which curriculum area do you feel particularly strong?
- What goals do you hope to achieve in your subject?
- If you were asked to get in-service experience in one area of the curriculum, which area would you choose?
- What are the various ways for materials to be presented to students such as in social science?
- Describe what diagnostic and proscriptive learning means?
- How do you integrate technology into your teaching and students' learning?
- What do you need to know in order to begin your lesson planning for a class?
- What four key components do you believe you must include in your plan?

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES

1. Describe any school experience you have had, particularly in student teaching (or in another teaching position) that has prepared you for a full-time position at our school.
2. How would you integrate technology into the curriculum you would teach?
3. Describe any innovative projects you have been involved in developing.
4. Give an example of how you have used cooperative learning in your classroom.
5. What four words would students use to describe your teaching strategies?
6. What rules do you have for your classroom?
7. Describe your teaching style and how you accommodate the different learning styles of the students in your classes.
8. What do you consider to be your strengths and how will you use them in your teaching?
9. What two core teaching strategies do you use to achieve your desired results?

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

- How would you go about setting standards at the beginning of the year?
- How do you get students to do what you want them to do? Describe your system of classroom management.
- How do you get students to develop in self-discipline? Can you teach this?
- Who should be responsible for the discipline in the school?
- If you have a student disrupting your classroom, what steps would you take to solve this problem?
- What is your attitude towards individual vs. total class punishment?
- Compare negative and positive reinforcement and describe effects of each.
- Describe an elementary child (junior high/senior high) at a grade level of your choosing-- his personality, study habits or attitude toward learning and behavior characteristics.
- What steps would you take to get a student who has been tardy to be more punctual?
- What would I expect to see in your classroom's physical environment?

PARENT RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

- Describe some ways you can inform parents of what is going on in your classroom.
- Tell me some ways you would involve parents in your classroom.
- How do you let parents know the progress of their child?
- In your opinion, how effective are parent conferences in solving student problems?
- Imagine that you replace a teacher during the year. Describe how you would become acquainted with parents and students.
- What would you tell a parent who complained about his/her child not having enough homework?

PERSONALITY, PERSONAL ATTITUDES/PROFESSIONALISM

- Why do you want to teach? Describe an "ideal" teacher.
- Why do you want to teach in our School District?
- What is wrong with education today? What is right?
- What do you expect from the school principal, psychologist and superintendent?
- What would you say if your first grade student asked if there really was a Santa Claus?
- Describe what your closest teaching associate would say about your getting along with adults? With children?
- What are the greatest teaching strengths you would bring to a teaching position?
- If you have yard duty and the teacher that relieves you is constantly late, what would you do?

- Why should you be selected for this position rather than someone else?
- What were you hoping we would ask you but didn't?
- What talents do you bring to this position?
- If your friend was describing you, what three adjectives/descriptive phrases would he/she use to describe you both personally and professionally?
- What do you believe is the major purpose of teacher evaluation?
- What are some personality characteristics you find unbearable in people?
- You have heard students complaining constantly about another teacher. What would you do?

TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH STUDENTS

1. What kind of students do you like to work with? What type of students could you teach most effectively?
2. You give an assignment. A student ridicules the assignment, saying it doesn't make sense. What would you do?
3. How do you help students experience success?
4. How would you individualize instruction for students?
5. What procedures do you use to evaluate student progress besides using tests?
6. How would you challenge the slow learner and the advanced learner within the same class?
7. How much do you want to know about your students in order to be most helpful to them?
8. What three things do you most want to know about your students?
9. When you think about your students, in what major ways do you most want to influence their lives?

TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH COLLEAGUES

1. How would you collaborate with other teachers/staff at the school?
2. What activities would you like to work with in our school?
3. What quality or qualities do you have that would enhance our teaching staff?
4. Who should be responsible for discipline in a school? Why?
5. What needs and/or expectations do you have of the school administration?

TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARENTS

1. How do you effectively communicate with parents? Describe how you have used this/these technique(s).
2. Describe the reasons why you would contact parents.
3. What would you include in your Open House presentations to parents?
4. What community activities would you like to be associated with? Why?