

Even though this is nearing the end of my Master's program, it is certainly not the end of my learning. I will forever be a student in or out of the classroom in some manner; while also being a teacher in way or another. Throughout my experiences in this program, I have learned a lot about myself as learner, student, educator/teacher, and much more. There is a plethora that I have learned and taken away from my classes, but I will continue to still having learning goals to achieve as I continue my profession as an elementary school teacher. Three goals I have for my future learning is specifically on technology in the classroom, creating the perfect library, and classroom management.

My first goal brushes upon technology in the classroom. In our current society, we are reliant on technology for many things - communication, and work within our jobs, entertainment, and much more. We have also been accustomed to using technology in the classroom; however, how much technology should we use? I know that technology can be helpful in the classroom; between the ELMO projecting writing on the screen to the smart board showing an interactive video. My school was also lucky enough to be one of the few Detroit Public Schools Community District schools to get a 1:1 student to laptop ratio. It has made it a lot easier for students to practice skills at their individual level with readily available technology. We also do much of our testing and intervention on the computer through many different programs. Although, are we becoming too reliant on technology that teachers might wane away from teaching? This is something that I am concerned with when applying technology into the classroom. I want the students to stay engaged to interact with one another while in school. Although, at the same rate, schools are becoming more dependent on using technology to test students and monitor their growth of reading and math. It is a great way to have all of the students' progress in a digital portfolio online. As I continue to learn, I want to create a happy medium of learning for my students with and without technology. How much is necessary? How much is too much. With more research, I would like to come up with this answer for my own classroom.

Another learning goal I have for myself is to create the perfect library for my classroom. Within my Master's classes, I learned a great deal about literacy and ways to implement various genres of books. It is important to cater to your students and find books that they can relate to, regardless of how controversial it might be. It should be an overall inclusive library. I also spent time in a few of my classes looking at literary classics and those that got various book awards. I am still learning what quality books are and where to find them. Many times they are brought to us by word of mouth, other times brought by research online, discussed in classes, and in libraries. Everyone will have a different library and interpretation of what good quality books are and I am continuing to discover that for myself. As I continue to learn, I hope to have a sustainable, unique, good quality library.

Finally, the last goal I have for my continued learning is on classroom management. Although, I believe I have classroom management, I also believe that the learning to better this is always ongoing. As a fairly new teacher, three years in, I am always looking for new strategies to enact in the classroom. I have also recognized that what might work for one classroom, might not work for another classroom. In addition, moving from different grade levels may also be a factor in what time of classroom management strategy is best for each teacher. Luckily there are many veteran teachers that have their ideas for what works best and I can personalize it for specific classroom setting, knowing my students and their needs.

Even though, I am finishing my professional learning through an institution, I am still learning every day. The learning goals I have outlined above, such as, technological advances in the classroom, picking books for my classroom library, and classroom management are all ideas that I have goals for and continue to strive to meet these goals to better understand what is best for my classroom and for the students in it.