**Leadership Framework**

My personal philosophy of education has been molded throughout my years at Baylor University. Through my time there and my experience in the classroom as a general education teacher I believe that every child ***can*** learn. I have enjoyed the opportunity to teach diverse groups of children including those with other health impairments, learning disabilities, autism, speech impairments, and emotional disturbances.  These experiences have helped me become a more compassionate and patient teacher who takes each student's unique needs and abilities and create multisensory lessons to accommodate and empower them to achieve. I believe that education is something that everyone is entitled to.  Education is the most essential tool for success in our world today.

  I truly believe that teaching is a profession that I have been called to by God. I have longed to be a teacher since I walked into the doors of my first school. All of the teachers whose classrooms I sat in so influenced my life and choice to become a teacher.  I have realized that a teacher’s impact on his or her students is endless. Your impact with your students doesn’t end in your classroom because the tools that you give them help them succeed in every stage of life. Whether it is academically, emotionally or socially, teachers enable their students to be successful in many different realms.  To many of my students, I may be the person that cares the most about them. A smiling face, a welcoming classroom and an encouraging environment can be just the thing a student needs to find the motivation they need to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals.  I believe that education needs to be student centered.

I believe in order for the special education classroom to be most effective, the teacher must utilize a variety of methods, strategies, and resources.  Teachers should be involved in ongoing education and professional development to continue to grow as an educator. It is  imperative that teachers stay abreast on existing and  new research based curriculum resources, instructional strategies and emerging technology tools for the classroom that have been proven to help students learn more effectively. Each student need should be met individually in the classroom and it is the teacher’s responsibility to differentiate for each student. In a perfect classroom, the students are learning about things they are interested in while meeting the standards in the curriculum. The students are motivated internally because they enjoy learning and seek to discover new things. I believe that both girls and boys should be educated the same way, however I do think it is necessary to meet their needs by teaching them about things that particularly interest them.

Teaching provides me with an opportunity to become a lifetime learner. One of my hopes as an educator is to instill a love of learning in my students, as I share my own passion for learning with them.  In our competitive society it is important for students to not only receive a solid education, but to work with someone who is aware of and sensitive to their individual needs. I think that the school should foster this love in children by making education an enjoyable process. The way that we attain this vision is to make education enjoyable for not only learners but also for teachers. I understand that there are subjects that certain students do not enjoy but I believe that they may excel in all subjects and life skills if they are encouraged in the right ways. If you are joyful and enthusiastic enough, other people are going to want to hop on board with you!