MARICOPA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (MCCCD)
TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

DISPOSITIONS OF A FUTURE TEACHER

According to the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (2002), teacher candidates should be able to work with students, families, and communities to reflect the dispositions of professional educators as delineated in the professional, state, and institutional standards. Dispositions are values, commitments, and ethics that are internally held and externally exhibited, and it is generally agreed that such dispositions strongly influence the impact teachers will have on student learning and development.


In addition to general standards of behavior and academic performance, students in MCCCD teacher education programs are expected to adopt the following dispositions and demonstrate them in practice both in college and field experience classrooms. These dispositions not only begin defining students as future educators, but engage them in early practice of professional and ethical behaviors.

1. Positive attitude
   a. Is cheerful around children and others
   b. Demonstrates humor
   c. Is inspirational, encouraging, motivational
   d. Minimizes self-pity, excuses and whining

2. Collaboration
   a. Displays open-mindedness and is a “good listener”
   b. Is cooperative and willing to work with others
   c. Is sensitive to differences
   d. Is accountable to the group and/or task

3. Ethic of Care
   a. Is aware of relationships with, among, and between students, parents, and the community
   b. Treats others with respect and dignity

4. Effective Oral and Written Communication
   a. Models language appropriate for a school setting
   b. Meets academic standards appropriate to college and K-12 grade levels

5. Self Initiative
   a. Takes responsibility for one’s own actions, especially in regard to attendance, promptness, and communication in school
   b. Demonstrates awareness of one’s role in field experience
   c. Accepts opportunities for professional growth
   d. Demonstrates a professional work ethic
6. Professional Demeanor
   a. Displays appropriate appearance and dress for school
   b. Uses professional email address and voicemail greeting
   c. Promotes ethical and responsible practice
   d. Maintains confidentiality

7. Time Management
   a. Prioritizes tasks and meets deadlines
   b. Is organized
   c. Plans ahead and maintains a time management tool

8. Reflection and Self-Evaluation
   a. Is familiar with individual strengths and weaknesses
   b. Is willing to accept feedback and assessment of one’s performance