Traits of Outstanding Teachers
from
Experienced Teachers’ Perspective

**Academic Credibility**
Know your subject. (You don’t have to know everything, but be willing to investigate questions you cannot know answer.

**Caring**
If a teacher doesn’t care about EACH student, then what’s the point? All that would be left would be the textbooks, endless papers, and meaningless tasks. Be sure to listen beyond the words they speak.

**Commitment**
To every child in the room

**Compassion & Patience**
Because we never know what kind of home they left in the morning before coming school.

**Consistency**
Have a routine and follow it everyday.

**Dedication**
To students and their success

**Determination**
Never give up on a child. You may be the one who makes the difference.

**Devotion**
To the profession

**Encouraging**
To every student

**Enjoyment of your Job**
If you do not like kids, you do not need to enter this profession, (no matter how much you love your content)!

**Enthusiasm**
For teaching and the profession (it is NOT about a paycheck or time off).

**Fairness**
Treat your students as you would like your own child to be treated.

**Flexibility**
For changes in the classroom as well as in the profession. If something doesn’t work, always have a back-up plan. Know that education is always trying different things, so be ready to change the way you teach.

**Healthy Time Management**
Take and make time for yourself.

**Honesty**
If you make a mistake, admit it. This allows the students to trust you and see you as “real person”, not just a teacher.

**Humility**
We all make mistakes.

**Humor**
The ability to laugh at yourself and the willingness to toss what you planned and go the flow when the need arises.

**Inspiring**
To all students, in all places, at all times.

**Investment in Students’ Success**
Attend school events besides those you sponsor.

**Kindness**
Comes in little acts of caring.

**Love**
Smile and greet your students everyday. You may be the only person to pay any attention to them that day (or any day).

**Organization**
Life is a lot easier when everything has a place and is in that place.

**Preparedness**
Plan, plan, plan, and then plan some more!
Professional Dignity  Commit to do your best **EVERY** day.

Reality  Never believe that your subject is the most important class they take because you will definitely get your feelings hurt!

Resilience  Everyday will not be good. But, behind every black cloud there is a rainbow.

Self Control  You are the adult. Be sure you act like one.

Tolerance  Remember that being different is what makes life interesting.

Understanding  The ability to recognize that your students will not be acting or thinking like an adult.

**REMEMBER:**  
It is ALL about the kids. If they are learning, involved and putting forth effort, then you are making a difference. You are touching a life beyond just the academic information you are teaching. Try to teach so that the students remember your lessons and are instilled with self-worth.