

Craig Toth

Educational Belief Statements

LIS-670: Educational Foundation for School Librarians

- I believe the purpose of schooling is to provide children with knowledge they can use to help them become responsible adults in contemporary society. This includes learning how people have lived over time, to understand the physical universe, to understand themselves as biological and social creatures, how to make wise choices in a variety of contexts, and to become life-long learners.
- I believe that teaching and learning requires effort, patience, and perseverance on the part of both teachers and students. I believe it is important for teachers to help students understand that learning that does not come easily is often deeper and more beneficial than learning that require minimal effort.
- I believe my classroom is a place where I provide instruction and support my student's learning objectives. I believe my classroom should be clean and orderly, with clearly identified areas for work and research and collaboration. I believe my classroom should inspire students to take responsibility for their learning, to organize their work, and treat teachers and fellow students with respect.
- I believe all my students are capable of learning, and that they learn best when they are given work that corresponds to their abilities. I believe all my students can achieve their learning goals, with proper guidance. I believe all my students can become life-long learners. I believe all my students are important and deserve the best educational opportunities that adults can provide.
- I believe my students learn best when I do what I can to create and maintain a safe, well-organized learning environment. I believe my students learn best when I create lessons that are interesting and engaging and attend to their individual learning styles and cognitive abilities. I believe my students learn best when I show them that I care, while at the same time holding them to high academic and behavior standards.
- I believe community and family are critical to helping children becoming healthy, productive adults. I believe the best community values should be expressed in schools, and that teachers should act as advocates and guides to help school communities flourish. I believe families should support their children with their time and energy to become avid readers and motivated, life-long learners.
- I believe collaboration is necessary for teachers to achieve the highest levels of professional performance. I believe librarians are key figures in facilitating collaboration among teachers. I believe librarians should help facilitate collaboration among students to help them achieve success in school and future employment opportunities.
- My professional goals as a teacher librarian are as follows:

1. Learn my community, school, fellow educators, and students so I can provide appropriate resources and services to help students achieve learning success.
2. Continue learning educational theories and best practices and how I may apply what I learn to my work as a school librarian.
3. Continue developing leadership skills that are applicable to school librarianship.
4. Keep current in educational technology that is applicable to education.