SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR TEACHER CANDIDATES (K-12)

1. Why do you want to teach at _______ School?
2. Tell me about your philosophy of classroom management.
3. What is your educational philosophy?
4. Tell me about a time when you had to work with an unmotivated student and how you would deal with it.
5. Describe a situation when you had to work with a defiant student and how did you deal with it.
6. Give me an example of a _______ (math, history, English, etc.) lesson you taught that went well and why.
7. Tell me about a lesson that didn't go well and how did you decide to improve it for future classes?
8. What are your expectations for students?
9. What has been your experience with working on / advising newspapers?
10. What do you like/ not like about the two classes you observed?
11. Do you prefer teaching ______ (subject) or ______ (subject)? Why?
12. Do you prefer teaching elementary, middle, or high school-aged students? Why?
13. Will you be certified to teach ______ (subject/grade level) in this state in the fall?
14. Why do you think you'd be a good fit at this school? What would you add to the school community?
15. What extracurricular activities do you feel you could lead/co-lead in our school?
16. What you think is important for students to learn in high (or middle) school ______ (subject) class?
17. What would you do if no one in class has done the reading you assigned for homework?
18. How do you plan on building positive relationships with your students?
19. How would you differentiate instruction in class with a wide range of reading levels?
20. How would you use results of assessment to shape instruction?
21. How use technology in the classroom, especially smartboards and tablet computers?
22. Is it a disadvantage for a white (if applicable) teacher to teach in a majority-minority classroom?
23. What grade and level (i.e. regular vs. honors) do you prefer to teach?
24. What do you see as being the biggest challenge in being a new teacher at a new school?
25. Tell me about a time you had to work with a parent who was challenging your teaching methods or questioning the treatment of his or her child? How did you handle that situation?