Welcome to Interview Tips for Prospective Teachers

The webinar will begin @ 7:00 p.m. (EST)

Webinar Ground Rules…..

- Phone lines will be muted during the meeting/webinar.
- Use Chat to submit questions while the presenters are sharing.
- During the Q&A session, press *6 to unmute or mute your phone line to ask a question.
- Thank you ALL for your professionalism and your patience with the virtual meeting process!
Interview Tips for Prospective Teachers

National Education Association (NEA)
Monday, April 3, 2017
7:00 p.m. (EST)
Interview Essentials

Isabel Bozada
Third Grade Teacher
Reynoldsburg City Schools
Reynoldsburg, OH
Interview Essentials Tips

- **BE PREPARED!**
  - Before your interview look at the school or district’s website and KNOW as much as you can about the position you are interviewing for.

- Bring multiple copies of your resume and cover letter.

- You are a professional. Dress like one. Act like one. Own your brand!

- Follow up with purpose!
Highlighting Instructional Expertise

Karen Pelletier
Reading Coach
Collier County, FL
Tips for Highlighting Instructional Expertise

- Know your teaching philosophy and know which teacher characteristics are most successful at educating students (Teacher Perceiver Interview).
  - Be open-minded enough to listen to/teach a different philosophy than yours
  - Understand that your philosophy will change as you gain more experience as an intern/teacher.

- When answering interview questions:
  - Know the many different ways an interviewee looks at a candidate.
  - Be ready to give examples of a reading, writing, math, and/or science lesson from your internship. (As you intern, be sure your lessons include differentiation, cooperative learning, and technology so that you can talk about all of these areas in your interview.)
  - Really know what differentiation is and be able to give examples.
  - Be specific enough so the interviewee can “see” your scenario in their mind.
  - If you’re going to use buzz words, make sure you know what they mean and can back them up using real examples.

- Know what makes you “You”nique?
  - Identifying Your Skills Activity. [Link](http://uwm.edu/careerplan/wp-content/uploads/sites/73/2016/10/Tipsheet-IdentifyYourSkills-Pink.pdf)

- Know how/why/which assessments are used for the District in which you are applying
  - Remember, assessment drives instruction/re-teaching.
Acknowledging the Cultural Assets of Students

Okaikor Aryee-Price
New Jersey Education Association
Former Language Arts Teacher
Tips for Acknowledging the Cultural Assets of Students

- Acknowledge that everyone brings something to the table.

- Understand that deculturalization is a part of the history of schooling in the United States and how we can reverse it.

- Self-educate yourself about your students and their families
  - Learn the language to communicate with families.
  - Reading about their histories and bringing that into the classroom.
  - Unlearn deficit mindsets/thinking.

- Using the families, and resources in their communities to help build collective knowledge and ways of seeing the world.

- Provide specific examples of how we build on the cultural assets of students:
  - Tie in their culture’s narratives and stories into the readings and work
  - The Ethnic Studies initiatives
  - Allow them to tackle problems that affect them most
Incorporating Campus and Community Involvement as Professional Resources

Friend and fellow educator. (We’ll come back to him later!)

This is me.

Anders Miller
Co-Vice Chair of the NEA Young Professionals Caucus
High School English Teacher
Franklin Heights High School
Columbus, OH
For Your Interview

- You will be asked questions and you need to stick out from the other candidates somehow, and pulling in examples from your past experiences can do this!

- Here is the philosophy I live by: people remember stories more than statements.

- These stories don’t have to be big. My approach to answering questions:
  - Situation
  - Task
  - Action you took
  - Results you achieved
How can you use this strategy in your interview to incorporate your experiences?

- Most dreaded question: “What would you consider to be your greatest weakness?”

- “Explain a time when you have had a miscommunication with someone. What happened?”
Questions

For additional information on this webinar topic, please contact the NEA Student Program (studentprogram@nea.org)

Upcoming Webinars
Cultural Competence for New Educators – Tuesday, May 9 @ 7:00 p.m. (EST)
Maximizing Your Summer Break – Tuesday, June 6 @ 7:00 p.m. (EST)