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Brief Assignment Four

“Hopeful High School”

 Hopeful High School dominates in academics! In this school, there is only a maximum of four hundred students allowed in the school. The committed and caring teachers in this school have a maximum of twenty students in their classroom. The curriculum in this school is varied and there are many fun and motivating items in the curriculum that help guide the career and technical education programs. There are many hands-on approaches that the teachers use to teach the curriculum. The curriculum is a combination of functional academics, which is focused on daily living and employment skills, and contextual learning, which relates subject matter content to real world situations and motivates students to make connections between knowledge and its application to their lives.

 The students who will attend this high school will be boys and girls of the community who like to work hard and attend school on a regular basis. There is a truancy officer that works well with the school and he doesn’t allow students to miss more than five days in a semester. If so, he meets with parents and decides whether or not they are allowed to come back to Hopeful High School. These students are dedicated students who work to the best of their ability in order to acquire more knowledge in the area they plan on studying as they get ready for adulthood.

 The teachers in this school use many different strategies to teach students of multiple intelligences. There is a lot of hands-on learning, individualized instruction, scaffolded instruction, teachers organize and activate knowledge, and make instruction explicit. Teachers check often for understanding and bring in one of the Response to Intervention teachers if there are students who may need some extra help on a specific topic or strategy in the class and need it taught another way or reviewed again. These RTI teachers use progress monitoring tools with students to make sure they are increasing their skills. If they aren’t improving, the instruction changes to help those students who need a change in order to learn more about that part of the curriculum.

Teachers also use technology while teaching – they have a projector and Smartboard in each classroom that help guide their teaching. Students can visually see the lessons and work on these lessons with the teacher. The students also each have Ipads in which they use to look up research when working on papers or for activities that teachers present in the classroom.

 The philosophy in this school is: I believe that every child will help lead the future. Every child is unique and can bring an important aspect to our world. We will guide students to be caring and thoughtful teenagers, and show them the respect needed as a good role model so they in turn can be responsible adults. The staff will also be caring and communicate with students so they can have a proper education that will help them in the future.

 Career and technical education services are very important at Hopeful High School. It is shown that students with disabilities are less likely to drop out and more likely to be employed if they receive technical education in high school. These services can help students experience different careers by job searching and taking classes to learn more about those careers. This will help students make decisions before graduation and can help them decide if they want to start work or go to college right after high school and also what career path they want to pursue. There are three teachers who work in the career and technical education room that work with students to look at options for future jobs and colleges. They also help schedule job shadowing days, help junior and senior students sign up for community college classes in which the high school pays for, and helps with finding and filling out scholarships and applications for colleges or post-secondary trainings.

 There will be varied special education services and also tutoring available for students. There are special education teachers included that will help students of varying disabilities. There is a self-contained classroom that focuses on life skills and students work around the community to learn important and vital skills. There is a resource room in which students come to in order to learn math and language arts and to teach study and organizational skills. There are also teachers who co-teach with regular education teachers in order to allow students to be included in the regular education curriculum. There is also a Pizza Club after school twice a week for all students to join. At least two teachers help with each Pizza Club meeting and students bring their homework or books in areas they need help with. The students get to eat pizza and drink pop that is provided by the school while the teachers help the students with things they need help with. The students are also encouraged to peer-tutor each other so they both learn more about the subjects. All of these educational services will help students receive a greater education where they learn more in order to have a better future.

 All students will go on a field trip at least once every two months, according to the career pathway that they choose. Students will get to go and observe what jobs they think may be interesting. They will also get to interview the workers at their places of interest so they can ask any questions that they think are important to know for their future.

 Hopeful High School is different from other high schools because we pride ourselves in having caring teachers who work together on a daily basis to help make the school a better place to learn. Teachers meet daily for 15 minutes before the school day starts to talk about strategies they are using in the classroom. It is also a more personalized school in which there is a low student-teacher ratio and more one-on-one help for those students who need it. The educational curriculum here also focuses on items that students are going to need and use in their future. The career pathways will help students decide what they want to do in the future, see places of employment in their areas of interest, and not just teach them what they need to know to pass an exit exam to graduate. Hopeful High School is a positive, nurturing environment where we believe every student can and will learn!