

1. What personal characteristics do you possess that you think will help you become a successful music teacher? Explain each characteristic and how it relates to successfully teaching music.

I believe that I am selfless, helpful, a leader, loyal, passionate, and responsible. My selfless characteristic will be helpful in my teaching because I care about others and put others needs first to be able to guide them and help them succeed. This ties into my helpful characteristic by wanting people around me to succeed and the will to help my students as much as I can to help them accomplish their goals. Being a leader is an essential aspect of being a teacher and throughout my years of experience with leadership positions, I feel as though I am a good leader and music teachers need to be able to be great leader role models to show students how to be a leader therefore those who potentially want to be a leader in the music program can. I am also loyal and dependable and always support those around me and programs I am apart of as well which is important in order to stay loyal to your school and your schools music program. My last two traits are passionate and responsible. By being very passionate for music and teaching, it plays a tremendous part of being a successful music teacher because I am passionate about my students and about teaching them music and how it can help and affect their lives.

2. What personal characteristics do you possess that should be strengthened so that you can become a successful music teacher? Explain your plan for addressing each of these characteristics.

One characteristic that can be strengthened is being more optimistic. As I go through life, it gets hard to have optimism about certain things and think that things will go as I want them to. As a music teacher, it is important to stay optimistic for your students because they themselves struggle with this trait. Another characteristic to build is confidence. Confidence is one of the most important traits to have and also one that most people struggle with. It is important to have in order to feel and know that you have what it takes to lead your students to success and confidence within your own musical skills help them learning how to be confident with their own musical skills.

3. What aspects of teaching are most attractive to you? Explain why each of them appeals to you.

The most attractive aspect to teaching students for me is watching them find more about themselves. When I was in high school, I took a class called career mentorship. My teacher for that class explained to us why she pushed so hard to get the class offered to high schoolers and one thing that she said she loved from teaching the class and teaching in general was getting to see the passion form for her students about what they want to do as a career and for the rest of their lives. That spoke to me and inspired me to want to see students passions grow and watch them turn into mature young adults. Another aspect that is attractive being the person that younger generations look up to. I have various educators in my life that I look up to and all who have inspired me to where I am today. I want to be an inspiration to students and to hopefully be a role model in their lives that they can look back on and say “wow what an excellent teacher and person she was to me”.

4. What aspects of teaching are least attractive to you? Explain why.

One aspect of teaching that is least attractive to me is having to deal with upset parents. I have heard from other students around me in high school that say “my parents will email him about

my grade” and I always felt bad for the teacher who had to deal with parents that fight grade battles for their kids. In my own experience, my parents would always tell me that they give me every opportunity to get my homework done and help remind me and therefore it is my grade and my responsibility to do well. They tried to tell me at a young age that they can’t fight my all my battles because in college that will not work it is my responsibility.

5. Do you think that you get along well with people – all kinds of people? Explain thoroughly.

I do believe that I can get along with all kinds of people. I believe that not everyone is going to like everyone and of course there are going to be people who do not like me and vice versa but just because you do not agree or particularly like a person does not mean that you cannot get along with them. It takes both parties involved to be mature and professional amongst one another. There is always a bigger picture to look at such as the students and the school. Therefore getting along with each other for the good of the students is important.

6. Do you like children and young people, even when they don’t behave the way you would like them to? Explain thoroughly.

Children, young people, and adults all behave in different ways but they have one thing in common which is that they are all human. People make mistakes that is human nature and choosing to see that all generations will do so helps build the mindset that it is okay for younger people to do so. It is how you react that will tell if they will make the same mistake again. As a teacher, helping students and children see their mistakes and recognize them will help them to learn from them and to not make them again. By this, of course I don’t like when children and young people don’t behave as I would like them but as a teacher it will be my job to help them learn and behave properly and respectfully.

7. Are you a fairly well-organized person? Explain thoroughly.

I am a very well-organized person and have been all my life. I enjoy being extremely organized and clean. It very much is an essential part of my life because without organization, I begin to feel flustered and more stressed. To stay organized with my college courses, I often use one main planner as well as many other helpful resources such as Microsoft To Do. This helps to make sure I have things written down outside of my brain to ensure that I don’t try to organize and remember things in my head because there is always a lot to think about and putting everything down always helps with that. Also, I try to stay organized in other aspects of my life as well such as living areas because without being clean and having things in places where they belong, I feel as if my head starts to feel unorganized.

8. Do you like it when other people succeed, or does it bother you when they do? If you do like it, is that true for every person you know, or just some? If the success of others bothers you, explain why and describe how this might negatively impact your teaching.

For the most part, I love seeing other people succeed in their life and accomplishing their goals. Seeing that motivates me to continue to accomplish my own goals in life. As a musician, I struggle with competition therefore sometimes I catch myself getting jealous of those that succeed and do better than I. When these instances arise, I try to take a step back and notice that those feelings are wrong and won’t help me progress as a teacher. I need to be able to put my

own feelings aside and be happy for them because there will be times as a teacher where other teachers will succeed and I need to lead by example for students to also recognize that other people's successes are just as important as your own.

9. If you could make the same amount of money singing or playing as a performer as you could teaching music, would you rather perform or teach? Thoroughly explain your choice.

If I could make the same amount of money performing as I could teaching music I would not choose to perform over teaching. Being a musician and performing is a passion of mine and it would fulfill that passion but a part of my life would be missing. I have just as much of a passion for teaching and helping others as I do for music and I would be missing that part of my life if I were to choose to just perform.