

**Five Core Propositions**  
**National Board for Professional Teaching Standards**  
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**Proposition 1: Teachers are committed to students and their learning.**

As an educator, my students are my work. I strive to do everything I can for them and treat them all equitably. I know my students enjoy using technology, therefore, I incorporate it whenever possible using the resources available to us. I believe in every one of them and hold my students to high expectations. I not only want my students to be proficient in all curriculum standards, I also want them to demonstrate respectable character skills. I create a classroom environment in which every student feels valued and feels they are important.

**Proposition 2: Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students.**

As a primary education teacher, I have to be knowledgeable in many areas of education: language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and speaking and listening skills. I have to be able to incorporate these subjects together in a way that results in meaningful learning for my students. It is a great challenge and one that I could never accomplish myself with my own ways. I am in my fourth year of teaching, but I still feel I have more to learn about teaching primary education. I rely on my veteran colleagues to help me understand how to teach difficult concepts to my students. We seek out research-based curriculum materials for all subject areas. We base all our lessons on the Common Core Standards and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills as well as our district and state goals.

**Proposition 3: Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.**

Today's world changes at a rapid pace. I believe teachers must dedicate themselves to becoming life-long learners to understand and apply the

most current and best educational strategies to teach their students. Technology is our world and must be used appropriately to teach students the skills necessary to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond. I want to do everything I can to help my students. I know they will learn differently and must be taught differently than how I was taught in elementary school. I seek out ways to incorporate technology into my lessons whenever I can, whether that's using my SmartBoard, document camera, a YouTube video, or interactive web game, I know that's what will grab my student's attention and what will help them retain the material encountered through using the technology. This year, I began using a Common Core based online curriculum called MobyMax to help differentiate my instruction with students. I can monitor the standards they have mastered as well as which ones we need to focus more on in the classroom.

**Proposition 4: Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience.**

I am currently in my fourth year of teaching, yet, I still feel I have so much to learn about education. Each year my experiences have made me a better teacher and I know each year will continue to make me better at my profession. To help me become more knowledgeable, I follow blogs, twitter, RSS feeds, and receive emails from national organizations like NCTM and ISTE to stay up-to-date on current issues in education. I read educational articles and discuss with colleagues on their significance. I continually reflect on my teaching strategies and am always searching for better practices to help improve my teaching.

**Proposition 5: Teachers are members of learning communities.**

I collaborate daily with colleagues at my current school and parents. With the aid of technology, I also frequently collaborate with past colleagues and learn from teachers all over the world via internet resources. These learning communities are all beneficial in building relationships that work together for the common good of students and helping them succeed. My graduate classmates have also helped pushed me to think more deeply about subject matter throughout all my courses via message boards, twitter, online meetings, and email. I

became even more passionate about using technology and discovering new technology by working with my peers.

***The Five Core Propositions are from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards:***

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