Kayleen Malizzi

SPE 101

Mrs. Sally Rosanne Carmichael

Focused Observation #2

1. Describe the curriculum areas (subjects) that you see being taught:

Well the teacher used a station teaching method in most of her activities. This gives all the students a chance to do both verbal, hands-on, and interaction with others through all of the tasks. The main subject that the kids were working with at that particular time was reading and comprehension.

* The stations used were:
  + Silent reading
  + Listen to an audio book
  + Work on the comprehension questions as the main task needing to get done.
  + Working in your assigned reading group doing popcorn reading. with the teacher and answering the teacher’s questions.
  + Playing educational games on the computer or IPad.
  + Sharing a book you brought from home with a friend.
  + Top 10 (vocabulary practice)

Some pointers that the teacher wanted to get across was good behaviors in the classroom, also she wanted to let the kids have an open mind and to feel comfortable in her class. She wanted to make sure that everyone was included and that every child has specific responsibilities to tend to each day.

1. Describe the classroom materials (bulletin boards, books, class schedule, assignment lists, student work, etc.) that show all the different curriculum areas being taught.

In the classroom the walls were covered with vibrant posters, and artwork. On the main wall there was the alphabet with each of the student’s names under the correct letter to their first initial. There was a Teacher’s Helper poster with student’s names on it that were helpers. (The helpers included: line leader, door holder, calendar helper, paper helper etc.) Another poster that was hung up on the board was an attitudes poster. It was called a “Clips up or Clips down: It’s Your Choice” poster. On this poster it included close pins of ever student’s name. Also it was divided into five different sections which read: Outstanding Role Model. Doing Great, Good Day, Ready to Learn (neutral/starting point), Think About Your Choice (call home), Warning Slow Down (call home). There was a “WOW” word wall. This poster included handwritten words by the students that they thought were “BIG words”, so like challenging words that they have only seen once or never before. Also, hanging around the room were positive motivational posters. One last bulletin board held all the classroom guidelines and procedures on it with the schedule the class (which I still need to take a look at thoroughly). Also, it included artwork and poetry by the students to share with the class and other visitors.

The classroom was very organized with books over on a shelf in the book center. The games and supplies were all placed and labeled in open shelving all along the back wall underneath the windows. The desks were organized into groups of fives with both boys and girls sitting intermixed. The teacher’s desk was also very organized with a calendar a grade book, lesson book, and folders of graded assignments.

1. Describe what elements of the “hidden curriculum” that you see reflected through classroom environment and management styles:

I believe that some of the hidden curriculum that the teacher is trying to get across to the students is:

1. To stay organized
2. To be respectful and make good choices.
3. To try to stretch the mind by being imaginative and creative when writing poems, short stories, drawing illustrations, and coming up with bigger and stronger words.
4. Confidence speaking and working with others one on one or with others in a group setting.
5. Making sure that everyone is included.
6. Positive attitudes.