Essential Questions, by Topic

You must explicitly answer these questions during your lesson. You may teach about these questions via student-centered strategies, but you must clearly answer these questions as teachers and refer to them as your Essential Questions. Don't re-number the questions.

The Middle School Idea

1. Describe how a middle school can differ from a junior high school in positive ways.
2. Explain why all teachers should be health teachers.

Hard Fun

3. Describe different levels of thinking, including how higher levels build on lower levels.
4. Explain why resilient self-efficacy is important and how teachers can nurture it.

Advisory

5. Explain the Advisory philosophy, including possible advantages. Describe examples of Advisory activities.

Teaming

6. Describe possible obstacles to teaming among teachers. For some obstacles, describe possible strategies for overcoming the obstacles.

Needs of the Adolescent

7. Describe five main areas of adolescent development. For each area, describe implications for teaching and learning.
8. Describe some of the possible wellness threats adolescents face (e.g., eating disorders). Describe specific strategies teachers can use to prevent and perceive such threats.

Honoring Diversity

9. Explain what it means to honor something.
10. Describe at least five differences among students, besides ability/disability. For each difference, describe positive and negative choices a teacher can make.

Learning Environments

11. Describe some proactive strategies for supporting positive student behavior, including classroom design.
12. Describe some strategies for promoting citizenship and community in a classroom and a school.

Curriculum

13. Describe some possible advantages and strategies (e.g., block scheduling) for an interdisciplinary curriculum.

Assessment

14. Explain the philosophy of Understanding By Design (UBD) or "backwards design." Describe an example. (Your example can't be this course.)

Teacher Behavior

15. Describe positive and negative choices a teacher can make to build relationships and foster rapport with students.

Instruction

16. Explain how "teacher-centered strategies" and "student-centered strategies" are different. Describe examples of specific strategies, including possible advantages and disadvantages of each strategy.

Exploratory

17. Explain what a mini-course is, including possible advantages. Describe three possible mini-courses.

Service Learning

18. Describe possible obstacles to using a Service Learning philosophy. For some obstacles, describe possible strategies for overcoming the obstacles.