

student #1:

Was the feedback I gave you from observations and field notes worthwhile to you as fledgling teachers?

Absolutely. Your notes not only brought to light things we noticed in our own classroom experience, but also things that we wouldn't have noticed unless pointed out by an outside observer. **You took our weaknesses and offered constructive feedback for improvements in classroom instruction, management, and philosophy.** You also were able to take our strengths and challenge us to do more by offering ideas that would help take our instruction to the next level. Your feedback was honest and constructive at all times.

What advice did I give you that was a flop or successful?

During one of your placements, I had a "Who am I?" activity in which students were to role play a character from the classroom text. **The activity went well enough for its trial run, but you pointed out that some got lost in the sea of voices while others weren't always held accountable for paying attention or offering something to say. You asked me questions (i.e. "What could you do to create a space for more engagement with the quieter students?") that helped me to re-evaluate and plan the activity to be more efficient and effective.**

One of the greatest ideas I worked on with you was my multi-genre project on the American Dream as well as the idea of presenting student work through a mock "10 year reunion" in which kids would come dressed as their future selves. I took your advice and the activity went great. It really added a lot to the project and the class as a whole, being one of the more effective classes of my placement.

I can't say I remember any "flops" in regards to your feedback/advice.

If you had to write on the world I present to student teachers, what might you say?

Passion. Whether my colleagues worked with you during placement or not, everyone sees the passion you have for teaching and has caught a bit of your contagious flair. You have made it obvious to us that we must teach (and live) with passion in all we do. Focusing specifically on our own conversations, you have constantly brought **up the idea of "soul work" and being a human being with students.** While I already saw myself as wearing this "type" of hat, you stressed and proved its importance in a way I had yet to consider and I see just how right you are. Students respond to a teacher they feel they can trust and is there for their benefit. **If I had to sum up every reflection and conversation we've had, it would definitely revolve around those two things: passion and soul work.** I can speak on behalf of myself and my colleagues who have had the opportunity to work with you in saying that you inspired us to stay positive throughout the hard times, excited throughout the long stretches, and to embrace both our successes and train wrecks. It has truly been a pleasure working with you throughout my placement and the experience has only bettered me as a teacher and benefited my future classrooms.

