Angela Ogorodnik Teaching Statement

As a future teacher, my professional teaching interest and goal is to make a positive long-lasting change in my students' lives. My teachers made a change in me and I hope to do the same in my students' lives. I know that I can do this by having a supportive relationship with my students, being flexible and providing a loving and welcoming atmosphere.

Supportive relationships reflect in positive and long – lasting results that impact students' academic and social development. First, students will be engaged in their learning when they receive support from the teacher. Encouragement and support will help overcome failure in every circumstance. I have experienced failure multiple times in my education journey and there were teachers that encouraged me and discouraged me, and I saw the impact both sides had on me. I have also seen the impact of support on students when I was doing my practicum. I was helping a student grow in reading. He knew very little and when we first started learning, he did not want to read at all but the more support that I showed him, the more engaged he was and the more he wanted to read.

As a teacher it is hard to be flexible, but it is so important. As life goes on, my students will experience circumstances that will not be easy, and I am willing to work with them and be flexible so that they do not have to deal with a lot of stress. Mental health is a big issue in today's society, which I want to prohibit as much as I can in my students' lives. Through my support, my students will not be stressed out because I will be flexible to change my assignments according to different circumstances.

As a student, the atmosphere of the classroom will determine everything. Therefore, my goal is to make a welcoming and supportive classroom where every student feels safe and accepted. This will determine my students' behaviors during the day and towards learning. If there is conflict among the student and teacher then the student will not be interested in learning. When I was volunteering at a Sunday School class at my church, I was observing a classroom and the class was misbehaving. I noticed that the students were inattentive and rude and when I later talked to the students, they told me, they didn't like her, and they don't want to come to Sunday School when she teaches. I realized the importance of a welcoming and engaged classroom which I hope to accomplish in my class.

One of my favorite things that I learned especially in my prerequisite classes is the importance of a relationship and being attentive to the needs of our students. This is a lot of work, but it can be accomplished through observation and giving up time and energy for students. I want to make a change and I can do that through a supportive and loving relationship which I hope to accomplish in my teaching journey.

Skills that I inquire that are helpful in case of online learning is, I know how to make videos and I am creative therefore I can keep the students engaged in their learning online. I know how to use zoom and its different qualities such as recording, switch screen and so on. I would prefer in person classrooms, but I know that I can teach online as well.

In conclusion, my goals and teaching interests for my students lies on these three things, a supportive relationship, being flexible and a safe and comfortable classroom atmosphere. There are many things that I learned during my education classes which I hope to apply. Most of all I hope to grow relationships with my students and be attentive to their needs. I am well acquainted with technology therefore I can make that switch. I know that it is challenging but I want my students to receive the best education.