SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS FOR TEACHER CANDIDATES

The questions below will give you a sample of the types of questions that are frequently asked at interviews for positions in the field of education.

Motivation and Personality:
- Why have you selected education as a profession?
- What do you enjoy most about teaching?
- What do you feel would be the most significant contribution you could make to our school system?
- Why did you decide to teach your subject area in particular?
- What is there about you that would cause a district to hire you over others?

Academic Preparation:
- Describe your student teaching experience.
- Tell me about your most difficult/enjoyable experience during your student teaching.
- What was the highlight?
- What was the worst problem you encountered? How did you handle it?
- Describe one activity or lesson that you were particularly proud of that you accomplished during your student teaching experience.
- Describe how you deal with discipline issues.
- Please tell me about your other work experience with children.
- What evidence can you cite of rapport building in your teaching experiences?

Teaching Techniques and Style:
- Explain your style of teaching – strategies, methodologies, techniques.
- What is your grading philosophy?
- How do you plan for a year? A week? A day?
- What are some examples of “rules” you would have in your classroom?
- Describe what I would see if I walked into your classroom while school was in session.
- What area would you like to strengthen?
- What steps would you take to improve a student’s self-concept?

Knowledge of the Employer:
- What do you know about our school district?
- Why do you want to be a teacher in our district?

- What would you do if:
  - You caught a student cheating?
  - A student never had his/her homework completed?
  - A student seemed to be an outcast in the class?
  - You knew a student had a serious personal problem?
- How would you communicate with parents?
- How will you go about meeting the needs of exceptional students?

The key to a great interview is preparation and practice!
Make sure that you have done your homework well in advance! Make an appointment with a career counselor in the Career Center for help preparing for interviews or to do a mock interview. 609-652-4650