

EMCC's BILL GAVIN: WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TEACHER



“Teaching is a never-ending process of gathering information and experience. Being an educator for 32 years has given me the opportunity to develop a philosophy that allows me to adjust to new technology and ever-changing students.

“My teaching philosophy provides, to each student, instructional knowledge and opportunity to expand that knowledge. It is my belief that students should be challenged and given an opportunity to grow and discover various applications of the knowledge and skills that are provided. In each of my classes, I try to create real world applications that students can relate to, that enable them to be creative.

“I also believe that it is my fundamental purpose to provide not only technical information and skills, but also interpersonal skills. As I work in the area of job placement for my students, I find most employers feel that many of today’s young people lack basic life skills. I do believe it is my responsibility to teach and make an impression on a student’s life. I stress the importance of punctuality, honesty, loyalty, self-discipline and responsibility. As young people today prepare themselves for employment, it is critical that these traits be provided.

“I take great pride in my students and their performance in the workplace. It is a great comfort to hear from employers that not only see the quality of education that my students have received, but also the inner qualities that I have had a part in developing. I relate this philosophy to the seven cardinal principles of education I was taught in college.

“Today, as educators, we face a new, high-tech media generation of students who are Twitter- and Facebook-oriented. I must be ever-conscious of new ideas, new communication skills and never-ending changes in the students I will come into contact with today and tomorrow.”

Bill Gavin
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