Belonging

1. Families
   a) Incorporates diverse perspectives of family and community in the learning process.
   b) Represents and welcomes all families, including those with lesbian or gay parents.
   c) Believes they can learn from information that children and their families have to offer.
   d) Recognizes the challenges families living in poverty have and develops lessons and relationships accordingly.

2. Classroom Environment
   a) Maintains a safe, inclusive, culturally responsive classroom where all children feel valued and have a sense of belonging.
   b) Proactively addresses diversity related situations.
   c) Believes that each student matters and that each one deserves and desires to be loved and accepted.
   d) Exhibits positive, caring attitudes so all students, including those with disabilities and those who are gay.

3. Voice
   a) Provides opportunities for students to express their ideas and opinions.
   b) Interacts with students in ways that show regard for linguistic differences.
   c) For students who are learning English, the candidate learns key words in the student’s language to increase communication.
   d) Includes children in the identification and exploration of issues important to them.

4. Classroom Community and Peer Interaction
   a) Groups and engages students to foster positive interactions w/ peers of different social groups & backgrounds.
   b) Engages students in discussions with other students about course content.
   c) Differentiates classroom management based on the needs of the students leading to successful classroom community membership for all.
   d) Provides opportunities and or encouragement for extracurricular involvement.

5. Relevance
   a) Provides opportunities for students to be successful in their studies.
   b) Plans instruction around students’ experiences and interests and cultural competencies.