

HB

EDSP 458

March 26, 2020

COVID-19 Reflection

I admit this virus pandemic has really taken me by surprise. I am not sure that I took it as seriously as I should have for the weeks leading up to shut down. Our practicum rural experience was canceled last minute, and I bought a one-way ticket to Arizona to be with my family. They had all headed south for Spring Break to enjoy some sunshine. Flying was a stressful time for me, trying to be careful with myself and with other. I felt like it was a good decision for me to be with my immediate family. It is much nicer in Scottsdale, so we were able to walk every day, swim, and golf outside. It made the days of “not leaving the house” feel a lot more normal. Since returning home, I have not physically left my house except for groceries. It’s been a big transition for being so busy spending little to no time at all. I’m not sure I’ve ever spent so much time in the house. That being said, it’s been a good time for me to start reading for pleasure again and working on house projects when I can. I have a new found appreciation for fresh air that’s for sure! I did go out and walk around the neighborhood yester, which I need to make a regular thing. I felt so much happier after just an hour of being out. I have a good group of friends here and we are trying our best to cook meals when we can and help each other out between school, work, and just life.

I am unsure exactly what I would do to support my students. I am still trying to figure out what I need in the coming weeks. As a younger kid, I am sure that they are extremely bored right

now. It also has to be high stress in the home if a parent is out of work or trying to now tackle school at home for possibly the first time. I think that having carpet time or other routine activities filmed each day for the younger students would be a great way to connect and still try and operate on a schedule. I think that a letter home to parents with resources and how to contact me would also be a must. Most kids these days can FaceTime and might like to talk with myself or their peers in class. It could be fun to have virtual class this way. I also note, that may not be possible for the students. I also really like the idea of having a pen pal. Two students could write emails or letter back and forth to talk with one another. I realize more than ever that I need to become more proficient with various film and computer apps. I think that would help me immensely if I needed to transition work online.

As always Jody, you are my spirit animal!! You are the teacher that has communicated most with new class expectations. There is a lot of unknown, but I appreciate your honesty and willingness to go the extra mile for class. The thing that has helped me most with online classes is when d2l is set up week by week and assignments droboxes are there with due dates. It makes it easier to complete all the task and not miss anything for the week! Thanks again for everything you do! Stay safe, stay healthy!