

Colloque des spécialistes en enseignement :
État, enjeux et identité au 21^e siècle

It's All about Having FUN!!!

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Abstract. In the wave of renewed professional identity, through the revamped *Reference Framework for Professional Competencies*, it seems like priorities might have shifted. There are now 13 competencies, some of which were combined and others have become cross-curricular. However, there is only one new competency: *Competency 8, Support students' love of learning*. In other words, Competency 8 is about *Having fun while learning*. This noble concept now needs to be part of the learning environment, which is set up by the teachers. But how can teachers go about setting up such an enriching environment?

Perhaps having a better emotional intelligence (E.I.) could help student teachers and teachers enjoy what they are doing, and in turn this would lead to a more enjoyable learning environment. The four main sets of skills of E.I. are self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management. Here are concrete examples of each:

Self Awareness

- Emotional Self-Awareness, the ability to know yourself and understand your feelings.
- Accurate Self-Assessment, understanding your strengths and weaknesses and their effects.
- Self-Confidence, having faith in yourself and being willing to put yourself forward.

Self-Management

- Emotional Self-Control, an important part of emotional maturity, controlling your feelings and/or expressing them in the appropriate settings is a key skill.
- Achievement, i.e. being goal-oriented and being able to work toward your goals.
- Initiative, being self-motivated, and having the ability to keep working despite setbacks.
- Transparency, being honest and open, interacting with integrity and being trustworthy.
- Adaptability, showing resilience and the ability to change course when necessary.
- Optimism, having a positive outlook, hoping for the best and preparing for success.

Social Awareness

- Empathy, one of the pillars of the ability to form connections with others, understanding and acknowledging others' emotions.
- Service Orientation, being helpful, contributing to the group effort, and displaying good listening skills.
- Organizational Awareness, the ability to explain yourself well and be aware of how you are being understood, as well as sensing the level of comprehension of your audience.

Relationship Management

- Inspirational Leadership, like being a good mentor, role model, and authority figure.
- Influence, articulating points in persuasive, clear ways that effectively motivate others.
- Conflict Management, having the skills to improve relationships, negotiate, and lead. The ability to settle disputes, differences of opinion, and misunderstandings.
- Change Catalyst, recognizing and supporting the need for change, and making it happen.
- Developing others, helping others build their skills and knowledge.
- Teamwork and Collaboration, working with others in an effective manner.

If one wishes to improve on those essential skills, there are many diagnostic tests, online videos and training sessions, and in person training sessions offered. The best and most renowned are:

- E.org: <https://eq.org/learn/courses/>
- SMART in Education: <https://passageworks.org/ourcourses/smart-in-education/>
- Six seconds: <https://www.6seconds.org/education/>

All of the above being considered, this profession needs to have FUN written all over it and WE are all part of the equation !!!