An Interview Is:
- An opportunity for you to present your background and skills to an interviewer whose goal is to evaluate your skills and qualifications for the position and “fit” (shared values and common vision) with their school/organization.
- An opportunity for you to evaluate a potential supervisor and work environment.

**TEACHER FOCUSED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**
- Tell me about your student teaching experience.
- If I walked into your classroom, what would I see? How would your classroom be arranged?
- Please describe your classroom management style. How do you handle discipline in the classroom?
- Give an example of how you have incorporated Individualized Education Plans (IEP) into the curriculum.
- Have you had an opportunity to work with parents? If so, how? (e.g. parent-teacher conferences, monthly newsletter, open houses)
- How do you assess students’ academic performance? (e.g. tests, portfolios, writing assignments, specific inventory tests)
- How would you incorporate multiculturalism into the classroom? (e.g. curriculum, family sharing, activities)
- How do you integrate technology into the curriculum? (e.g. computers, cameras, radio)
- How have your other previous experiences prepared you to be a teacher?
- Why do you want to work for our school system?
- How do you use or see parents being used in your classroom?
- How do you see yourself working with an inclusion team?
- What is your philosophy regarding teacher-directed vs. child-centered instruction?
- What children’s book has influenced your teaching and why?
- How do you plan to further your professional development?
- What would a typical day look like in your classroom?

**Common Interview Questions**
- Tell me about yourself.
- What interests you about this school/site/organization?
- We are interviewing many candidates for the position. Why should I hire you?
- How would you collaborate with your colleagues?
- How do you see yourself connecting to the community?
- What three words would you choose to describe yourself?
- What are some of your strengths? or Please describe your greatest achievement to date.
- What are some of your challenges/weaknesses?
- How would you describe an ideal supervisor?
- Do you have questions for me?

**Questions to Consider Asking**
- What types of professional development do you offer?
- How does the school support technology in the classroom?
- What are the different types of classroom resources that are available for teachers?
- How would you describe the school climate from the perspective of a teacher? Student? Parent?
- What is the timeline for this search? When might I expect to hear from you?

**Thank You Note**
Follow-up all interviews with a Thank Note: This is your opportunity to restate your interest and qualifications. Use the letter to reemphasize your potential value to the organization, correct any misunderstandings, and add forgotten points. Do not forget to reiterate that you are still interested in the position and the organization. Strive to send the letter within 24 hours of your interview. (For additional guidance and a sample thank you note, please see the CCD’s guide to thank you letters.)
Dress for Success—How to Make a Great First Impression

Your appearance is the first chance you have to make an impression on a potential employer. Take care to look pulled together and professional. Though education dress requirements are more casual than some other professions, you still want to be perceived as a professional. Even though at your field placement you may be playing on the floor with PlayDough™ in sweats, you will need to be professionally dressed for an interview. Dressing well shows respect for the interview process. Casual dress would communicate that you don’t take teaching or yourself seriously, and do not respect the school’s representatives and interviewers. When in doubt, it is better to be overdressed than undressed.

Professionally dressed means…

### Men
- Conservative blue, gray or black two-piece business suit.
- Plain long-sleeved button down cotton shirt (professionally starched) over a traditional short sleeve white undershirt.
- Tie should be conservative.
- Shoes should be clean, polished and leather. Black wing-tips or lace-ups are best.
- Dark socks (black is best) that are long enough not to show skin when crossing legs.
- Get a haircut. If you have a beard or mustache that you are not willing to get rid of, they should be neatly trimmed.
- Make sure your nails are trimmed and that they are clean.
- No earrings.
- Use little or no cologne.

### Women
- Skirt or pants suit with a jacket in a conservative color (black, navy, gray, etc.). The skirt should be a little below the knee.
- Long-sleeved blouse should be cotton or silk in a light color and have a conservative neckline.
- Wear clothes that are timeless and not too tight or revealing.
- Shoes should be closed toe flats or low heels in black or another solid dark color to match the suit.
- Keep jewelry simple. Earrings, a single necklace or bracelet, an engagement or wedding ring.
- If you wear nail polish, use clear or a conservative color and trim nails to a short length.
- Minimal use of makeup in conservative tones.
- Pantyhose should be flawless (no runs) and conservative in color.
- Use little or no perfume.

* If you are going to a field placement interview and do not have a suit, please dress as nicely as you can while still observing the “Dressing Don’t’s.” For example, you might wear a button-down shirt or turtleneck and khakis, or a sweater with slacks.

### Dressing Don’ts

**Women should not wear/have:**
- Large jewelry or piercing (except for small earrings)
- Perfume
- Jeans or sweats
- Tank-tops
- Sneakers
- Flip-flops or sandals
- Outwardly visible underwear or tattoos
- Showing midriffs/stomachs or cleavage

**Men should not wear/have:**
- Large jewelry or piercing
- Cologne
- Jeans or sweats
- Sneakers
- Flip-flops or sandals
- Outwardly visible underwear or tattoos
- Showing midriffs/stomachs