CREDE: Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence

CREDE's philosophy

- All children can learn.
- Children learn best when challenged by high standards.
- English proficiency is an attainable goal for all students.
- Bilingual proficiency is desirable for all students.
- Language and cultural diversity can be assets for teaching and learning.
- Teaching and learning must accommodate individuals.
- Schools can mitigate risk factors by teaching social and learning skills.
- Solutions to risk factors must be grounded in a valid general theory of developmental, teaching, and schooling processes.

The CREDE Five Standards for Effective Pedagogy

An important facet of CREDE's work is the development of a pedagogy that has been proven to be effective in educating all students, especially at-risk students. The Five Standards for Effective Pedagogy do not endorse a specific curriculum but, rather, establish ideals for best teaching practices that can be used in any classroom environment for any grade level or group of students.

The Five Standards for Effective Pedagogy.

- **Teachers and Students Working Together**
  Use instructional group activities in which students and teacher work together to create a product or idea (known as joint productive activities).

- **Developing Language and Literacy Skills across all Curriculum**
  Apply literacy strategies and develop language competence in all subject areas.

- **Connecting Lessons to Students' Lives**
  Contextualize teaching and curriculum in students' existing experiences in home, community, and school.

- **Engaging Students with Challenging Lessons**
  Maintain challenging standards for student performance; design activities to advance understanding to more complex levels.

- **Emphasizing Dialogue over Lectures**
  Instruct through teacher-student dialogue, especially academic, goal-directed, small-group conversations (known as instructional conversations), rather than lecture.

http://crede.berkeley.edu/