**Teacher Belief Inventory**

*Directions: Within each of the following pairs of statements, please choose the one that best exemplifies your beliefs about teaching. Please answer every item*.

1. a. I believe student achievement can be reinforced by developing an understanding of the role of feedback in the learning process.

b. I believe student achievement can be improved when teachers know a variety of proven reinforcement techniques.

1. a. I believe that checking for understanding is best accomplished when teachers have been trained to use specific questioning techniques.

b. I believe that checking for understanding is best accomplished when teachers' practice is informed by theories of intellectual development.

1. a. I believe teachers should have an understanding of how social problems affect students in the classroom.

b. I believe teachers should be familiar with techniques that minimize the effects of social problems on student learning.

1. a. I believe that teachers should be able to use various methods for adapting instruction to individual students' needs.

b. I believe that an understanding of different learning styles should inform teachers' decisions when individualizing instruction.

1. a. I believe that remediation of learning difficulties is most effective when teachers understand the conditions that created the problem.

b. I believe that the remediation of learning difficulties is most effective when teachers employ techniques that help students to cope with the problem.

1. a. I believe that teachers should help parents understand the process of child development so that they can work effectively with their children at home.

b. I believe that teachers should help parents develop a set of strategies so that they can work effectively with their children at home.

1. a. I believe that developing intervention strategies based on principles of human motivation will help maintain an orderly classroom environment.

b. I believe that developing a system of rules and sanctions for addressing student behaviors will help maintain an orderly classroom environment.

1. a. I believe that evaluating the effectiveness of my communication style will promote good classroom communication.

b. I believe that learning established techniques of speaking and questioning will promote good classroom communication.

1. a. I believe that teachers should spend the full amount of money allocated to them for supplies each year, so that adequate funding will be maintained in the future.

b. I believe that teachers should spend only the amount of money necessary to secure appropriate materials, so that all resources will be used in support of instructional goals.

1. a. I believe that teachers manage time most effectively if they practice balancing home and job responsibilities.

b. I believe that teachers manage time most effectively if they apply established concepts of time management.

1. a. I believe that understanding learning theory will help me tailor information to the cognitive level of my class.

b. I believe that understanding techniques for organizing content will help me to match material to the cognitive level of my class.

1. a. I believe that teachers should develop assessments that work well for their students.

b. I believe that teachers should develop assessments that correspond to learning objectives.

1. a. I believe content should be selected based on the broader principles that are part of the discipline.

b. I believe the content chosen for courses should be based on student and teacher interests.

1. a. I believe instructional objectives should reflect the general goals of the curriculum.

b. I believe instructional objectives should reflect the teaching style of the individual instructor.

1. a. I believe content is best organized based on common practices among teachers within the education profession.

b. I believe information taught in lessons should be organized according to a conceptual framework which is part of the discipline.

1. a. I believe assessment instruments are best developed through the application of established principles of test construction.

b. I believe assessment instruments are best developed through continuous practice in test construction.

1. a. I believe teachers improve their instruction by reading about successful teaching techniques in professional magazines.

b. I believe teachers improve their instruction by reading about current research on how children learn in classrooms.

1. I believe principals should expect teachers to use the most current methods of instruction in their discipline that are being promoted by educational experts.

b. I believe principals should expect teachers to be able to defend their current teaching methods by explaining the theoretical rationale underlying their instructional approaches.

1. a. I believe successfully communicating expectations of academic performance to students is dependent upon using a variety of methods including the student handbook, conversations with students, and posting classroom expectations.

b. I believe successfully communicating expectations of academic performance to students is dependent upon administrators and teachers' understanding of communication theory, that is, an understanding of how to effectively communicate.

1. a. I believe that teachers should understand the impact of a disrespectful classroom environment upon the psychological development of students.

b. I believe that teachers should he familiar with techniques for reducing the prevalence of disrespectful behavior in their classrooms.

1. a. I believe that teachers should be familiar with techniques for creating a classroom environment that is characterized by acceptance and support.

b. I believe that teachers should understand the interpersonal dynamics that produce norms of acceptance and support within group situations.

1. a. I believe that teachers should understand the impact of competitive and non competitive reward structures on students' motivation to achieve.

b. I believe that teachers should be able to efficiently implement reward systems in their classrooms that will reinforce student achievement.

1. a. I believe that teachers should be able to apply principles of group dynamics to the resolution of conflicts arising out of student differences.

b. I believe that teachers should be able to employ strategies to ensure that different students' interests are equally served in conflict situations.

1. a. I believe that teachers should be able to effectively use available instrumentation for measuring acquisition of basic skills.

b. I believe that teachers should possess the knowledge necessary to develop their own instruments for measuring acquisition of basic skills.

1. a. I believe that teachers should have a clear conceptualization of exceptionalities that allows them to identify students with special needs in the classroom.

b. I believe that teachers should be familiar with a variety of techniques for identifying students with special needs in the classroom.

Nottis, K., Feuerstein, A., Murray, J., & Adams, D. (2000). Teacher Belief Inventory: Measuring the theoretical and practical orientations of preservice teachers. *Education, 121*(1), 90-101. (<http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qa3673/is_1_121/ai_n28800370>)