WHY A TEACHER?

by:
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“Teachers teach, but great teachers help us learn and live.” Brooklyn, a grade 12 student.

I used to ask myself why I wanted to become a teacher. I had always thought about why, of all professions, I dreamt to be an educator. And I didn’t know the answer until I became one.

According to Katrina Fried in her blog for Huffpost, there are 21 excellent reasons for one to quit his or her job and become a teacher. Some of them are to live with a deep sense of purpose, to be one caring adult in a child’s life, to inspire generations of change, to explore your creativity, and among others.

But for me, the primary reason why I chose to become a teacher was to become a lifelong learner. I have read somewhere that being a teacher gets you to “spend your career cultivating a love of learning for your students.” As I teach, I learn in return. It’s a non-ending process. I teach my students and I learn something new from them, something that I look forward to every day.

Another reason, and for me the most important one is because I believe that teaching is the most fulfilling profession in the whole world. It may not be the best paying, but being a teacher is definitely the most rewarding job there is. It is such an honor that children, my students live carrying my influence in their lives. And this influence will equip them as they face every obstacle that comes their way. Seeing them fly with their own wings as they journey through life is my greatest reward as an educator. A reward that no amount of material possession I can ever trade for.

As Teacher William Jackson puts it, “Children are like a blank slate and teachers have the unique opportunity to write, draw, sketch, color, paint and design the minds of children to influence the future world.”