

REQUEST TO TRAINING TEACHER

Dear Training Teacher;

My experience is limited. I want to learn. Please don't expect perfection whenever I interact, guide behavior, lead a lesson, or do bulletin boards. Please be patient with me.

My eyes have not yet been trained to see all the students in the classroom most of the time.

Classroom responsibilities will always be there. I'm only with you for a semester—a short time. Please take time to explain things to me and do so willingly.

My feelings are real. Please be sensitive to my needs and don't get annoyed if I ask a lot of questions and am uncertain about what to do sometimes. Treat me as you would like to be treated.

I am a unique individual, like each one of your students. Please treasure my being, holding me accountable for my actions, giving me guidelines to follow, and disciplining me in a professional manner, if need be.

I need your support and encouragement to grow. Pointing out what I am doing correctly and occasional praise can be reassuring and help me feel comfortable to take risks and grow.

Please give me constructive feedback, focused on the things I do, without criticizing me.

Please give me the freedom to make decisions and test them out as long as they don't jeopardize the well-being and safety of the students. If I fail, I can learn from my mistakes. Then I'll be better prepared to make decisions life requires of me.

Please invite me to appropriate faculty meetings, seminars, workshops, parent meetings and to join educational organizations, setting a good example for me to follow. I may not be able to attend but I will appreciate your confidence in me as a future fellow professional.

Learning is a life-long process and I know that I have much to learn.

Sincerely,

Paraphrased from "Parenthood Without Hassles ---Well, Almost," by Dr. Kevin Leman.