

## About Mr. Rafael Sanchez

### Headmaster Personal Philosophy

I chose to share my passion for teaching and learning at Maricopa Institute of Technology (MIT). I am an instructional leader and will continue my professional growth to better serve our students, staff, and parents. I will lead by example with a positive attitude and enhance staff and student relationships. As a former math and science teacher, I will model instructional practices and school procedures. I hold teaching as an awesome responsibility and honor. I will take responsibility for my actions and everything our school does or fails to do. I will strive to help our students and staff develop and reach their full potential to make MIT an excelling and innovative institution.

I believe students have multiple intelligences, skills, and different learning styles. A hands-on approach, project based, thematic and content-based education will give our students a unique and fun way of developing listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking skills in every subject and lesson. I believe all students will learn as we nourish and develop their emotional and physical well-being.

I hold high expectations of students, staff, and myself. Students must be taught expectations and held accountable for their learning through the use of best teaching practices. Students should always be disciplined with dignity and respect. We must motivate and reward students with extrinsic and intrinsic incentives. Hard work, discipline, and dedication lead to success. We will celebrate student accomplishments in the classroom and as a school through positive reinforcement with genuine praise and feedback, certificates, assemblies, and reward ceremonies.

Parents are a crucial component for student success. Parent involvement should always be recruited and employed. Parent communication through phone calls, notes, automated messenger, email, home visits, or conferences must be employed. Solutions for all stakeholders come through collaboration and teamwork.

I served two years in the U.S. Army. I am proud to be an American citizen and proud of my Hispanic heritage and language; therefore, I respect and value other's culture. I realize the language of power in the world is English, consequently I will prepare my students to compete in a global market. Our school staff will model the English language for our students at all times while being empathetic to the needs of our English learning students.

My door is always open but more importantly I will reach out to students, staff, and the community. My list of chores comes second to your needs. All staff and students are individual people who have special needs and talents. I respect you as an individual and professional. Student or parent concerns will be referred to needed parties as a first step to resolving an issue. I may from time to time mediate issues between staff, students, and parents. If we work as a team and community, MIT will reach its full potential and goals.