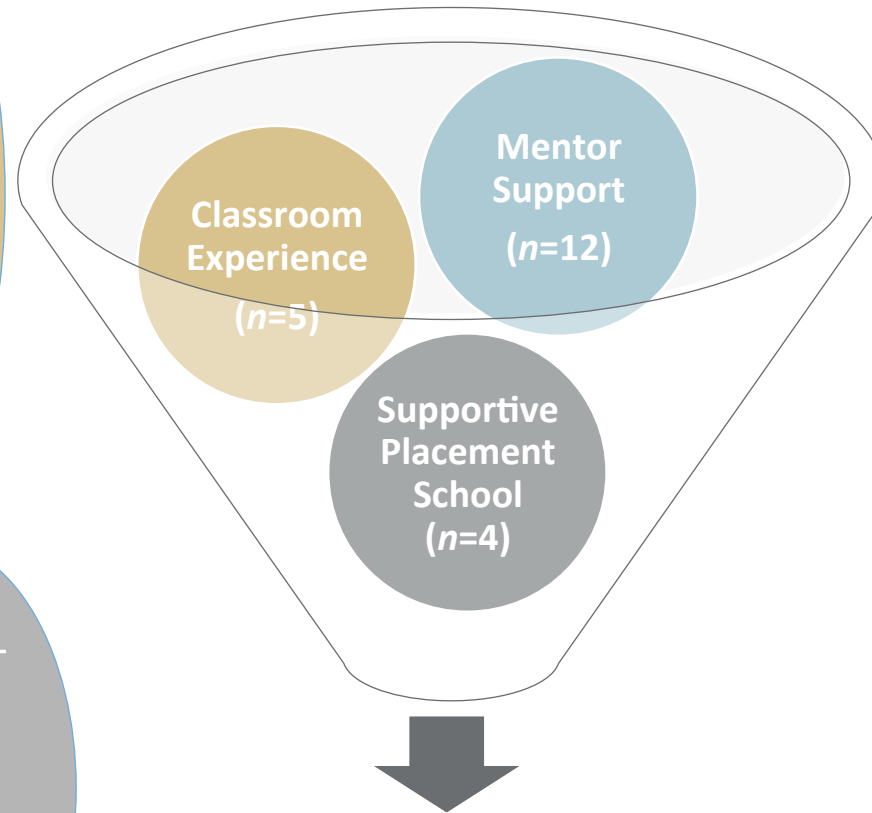


Experiencing a classroom on a daily basis, 8:00 to 4:00, that's invaluable. I feel like you have to have those experiences, and you have to be in the field to really gain those tools because people can tell you how it is, but you're not going to **really understand and know what teaching is about**, unless you're put into the classroom. I feel like that was helpful.

Then the school that I'm at is amazing...it's just—it's a great school in terms of performance, **in terms of cultural awareness and caring for students of all cultures, diversity and things like that**. I think that they really stand behind what they preach.



## Professional Growth

I was paired with a fabulous mentor teacher and **she and I get along very, very well**. I think for me personally working with someone who has a similar personality style, similar in terms of organization, just a lot of facets correlate with each other. For me, it's **learning from someone who I want to be like as a teacher anyway**.

[My mentor] has been really great about giving up the reins as opposed to having a hard time giving up the control. **She has a lot of confidence in me and we just work together**. There's almost no question if one of us just taking over if the other one is out for a day.