Extended Summary

To Investigate The Elementary Mathematics Teacher Candidates’ Attitudes to The Teaching Profession

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Introduction

Teachers’ attitudes related to their professions plays a significant role on developing personality of the students, the essence of the student-teacher relations and providing the learning by reflecting on their behaviours and class atmosphere. The persons who will apply teacher profession should have some requirements which are needed to provide the essentiality of profession more effectively. The one of them is being positive of their attitude against the profession of teaching. In term of teacher training, to detect the attitudes of teacher candidates related to the their profession and if it is negative, in this case, it must be changed to the positive are imperative for educating qualified teacher and increase the success of program (Semerci and Semerci, 2004). Therefore, the levels of attitudes of the elementary mathematics teacher candidates who attend to the Education faculties are rather important. In this study, it was aimed to evaluate the attitudes of elementary mathematics teacher candidates against the profession of teaching in terms of different variables. “Attitude Scale related to the Teaching” and “Personal Information Form”, which are developed by Erkuş, Şanlı, Bağlı ve Güven (2000, 27-33) as a data collection tool and author in order to collect information about students, respectively, have been used in this study in which used the scanning method. Some questions like the gender, class level, parents’ education level and the kind of graduated high school of the students who join to this research have been located in this personal information form. “Attitude Scale related to the Teaching” developed by Erkuş et al (2000) consists of 23 items, 10 of them are positive and left are negative factors. Cronbach’s alpha reliability coefficient of scale is
0.99. Attitude scale related to the teaching ranges from 1 to 5. In Likert type scale, each attitude item has been scored because the scale score consists of the sum of reaction score shown to the items. This grading has been done differently whether the item is negative or positive. Processing was scored from exactly appropriate (5) to non-appropriate (1) for positive items and contrary for negative items. The highest score which is being able to get from the attitude scale is 115 and also the lowest one is 23. The high score obtained from scale means positive attitude while the low score means negative attitude for the teacher profession. The data of this study have been obtained by applying “Attitude Scale related to the Teaching” to the total of 158 students who attend to the first, second, third and fourth classes of the department of elementary mathematics teaching of Education Faculty of Muş Alparslan University in spring semester of 2013 year. The data obtained with attitude scale have been analyzed in SPSS17.0 package program. The independent sample t-test and one-way variance analysis techniques have been used in the analyzing of data. At the result of study, it has never been detected a significance differences in the students’ attitudes towards teaching profession in term of some variables such as “gender”, “class level”, parents’ education level and “the kind of graduated high school”. Also, another important result obtained from this study is that of the students’ attitudes towards teaching profession is appropriate level and being positive.

Purpose

The aim of this study was aimed to evaluate the attitudes of elementary mathematics teacher candidates against the profession of teaching in terms of different variables.

Results

At the result of study, it has never been detected a significance differences in the students’ attitudes towards teaching profession in term of some variables such as “gender”, “class level”, parents’ education level and “the kind of graduated high school”. Also, another important result obtained from this study is that of the students’ attitudes towards teaching profession is appropriate level and being positive.
Methodology

Research, teaching elementary mathematics section of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students in their attitudes towards the teaching profession in terms of different variables to determine is descriptive research model. Screening model, past or present condition as it was an existing aim to describe (Karasar, 1994). The research sample, in the spring semester of the 2012-2013 academic year Mus Alparslan University Faculty of Education department of Teaching of Elementary Mathematics 1, 2, 3 and 4, a total of 158 student studying in class constitutes.