The main body of the class was a discussion of Covey’s Seven Habits of Highly Effective People: Be proactive, Begin with the end in mind, Put first things first, Think Win-Win, Seek first to understand then to be understood, Synergize, and Sharpen the Saw. It was obvious that she (I didn’t write down her name in my notes) felt very passionate about the system. And I think the things she talked about are important for future teachers. Basically, I feel like it boils down to being teachable and willing to negotiate with people and planning ahead. It wasn’t earth shattering to me, because I naturally do most of these things. I feel like these skills are obvious for anyone who wants to work with people – and especially as teachers we must cultivate skills for problem solving, planning, and working with others.

For me the most meaningful thing in her talk was when she shared some of her experiences as a school administrator. She talked a lot about the things that they don’t teach in schools of administration – how do deal with affairs between to teachers, what to do when a teacher loses a child to leukemia, how to respond to attempted suicides or injury. She was very passionate about how important care for people is in education. Education is not just about curriculum and pedagogy – at its heart education is always about people. I was moved by her passion.

Her motto was: Children first. And it clearly showed that she is a person deeply committed to care for children. I appreciated her heart. And she touched on some of the reasons that I am committed to teaching – for me it comes down to a desire to make an impact in the lives of people – in their triumphs and also in their struggles and failures. Teaching, and school administration, provide a valuable platform for us to make a positive impact in the world.