

Raleigh County Schools

FEATURE TEACHER

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What is a challenge you have faced teaching in during a pandemic in 2020?

The biggest challenge is just staying organized with 2 groups of students. I found the best way to deal with this is just to keep it simple. Use the tools you have! I use the online interactive lessons and assignments provided by the textbook to help students at home. Students fill out their daily agendas while in person, so they know exactly what to do on their home days. (This information is also in their Schoology folders). Don't reinvent the wheel, just tweak it a bit! Teachers should not feel guilty making it easy for themselves or their students!

How do you support building a positive and safe online learning environment for your students?

I let my students know that this is new to ALL of us and we are truly working through this together. In class, we make sure students know how to use the technology and where to find all assignments before they go home.

Do you have a super awesome success story from 2020?

I don't think I have one- LOL Although, I have gotten better at using Schoology and learning how to send interactive lessons to students using hyperlinks on Schoology! :)

What do you do to encourage online classroom participation?

I set my expectations high. I let my students know clearly what I expect them to do on their remote days.

Parent Communication... What's working for your families?

We communicate through students' Agendas and Schoology. Our parents have been awesome at responding! If we do not get a response either through the Agenda or Schoology, then we pick up the phone!

What methods have been effective in teaching during a pandemic?

With the smaller class sizes, I have gotten to do more one on one instruction with struggling students. I think we have all learned to be more flexible and more organized.

Share something positive about teaching in 2020.

The students have been so awesome about following the new rules. Everyone has really been working together to make this crazy year work! It is going better than I ever thought it would!