

Title of Session: Pre-service (Student) Teachers Forum

Moderator: Marianne Handler

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MarianneH: Welcome to the PreService Teachers Session.

MarianneH: I am Marianne Handler and was a member of the Technology in Education Master's Program at National-Louis University in Illinois.

MarianneH: How about it you each take 1 line to write where you are from and what year you are in and then I will know a little about you.

BJ: a suggestion for all new members of Tapped In...

MarianneH: Meredith - will you start.

KarenHC: I am an elementary pre-service teacher from the University of Houston.

BJ: click on the ACTIONS menu in the top right of this chat window and click on DETACH

MeredithK: I'm from Houston, TX going to school at UH to become a teacher. I want to teach HS Biology

RomanC: My name is Roman, I am just about to start my student teaching through the University of Akron in Ohio. Middle Level-math and lang. arts

MarthaLE: I'm an ESL pre-service teacher in the Northern Virginia area

MelissaLG: I am a pre-service teacher at UH

SandraMa: I'm from Virginia, currently completing my undergrad at GMU. I've worked in elementary computer lab setting for several years, and am working to complete my teacher certification.

MarthaLE: I'm also at GMU, Sandra

BethHar: I am a pre-service teacher at UH.

LisaCC: I am also a pre-service teacher at UH

MarianneH: Texas, Virginia, Ohio -- great to have you folks here,.

MeredithK: Lots of us here from UH

MariaGC: I'm a preservice teacher from the University of Houston as well

PogyongC: I'm from Korea and doesn't have experience

MarianneH: We often have the UH folks but now we will have some more voices to learn from GREAT!!

JuliaMP: Hi, I'm from Houston. I am a pre-service teacher from the University of Houston

MarianneH: I am guessing that some of you are taking tech classes and that is why you are here -- or even better back again.

KimCh: I am currently on sabbatical. I am working on my plus 30, taking an educational technology class. We were asked to sit in on a session.

LisaCC: Yes, last one!

KarenHC: You got it Marianne!

MarianneH: Our goal is to build a community of beginning teachers who can help each other as they work toward better..

StevenCR: I'm in Dhaka Bangladesh at the American International School Dhaka. I'm Technology Coordinator and one of my responsibilities is teacher inservices on integration of technology. I'm here as a student at SDSU. It is a course assignment. I'm observing

BethHar: Yes this is for my tech class.

MarianneH: integration of technology into your teaching.

MeredithK: This is for my tech class

MarianneH: Sandra, you said you were working in a tech lab before going back for certification. Is that right?

SandraMa: Yes, as an instructional assistant since I'm not yet certified I can't get credit for the actual teaching which I do.

MarianneH: Would you tell us some of the things your did in that job when working with students.

MarthaLE: Does anyone have an opinion on going into a straight paid teaching job versus doing student teaching?

MarianneH: Martha.. can we hold that for a bit, please.

MarthaLE: sure.

MarianneH: Sandra?

MeredithK: That's something I would like to know about, Martha...I've been debating about finishing through Uh or going through an alternative program

MarianneH: Meredith, we are coming back to that later.

MeredithK: ok, thanks

MarianneH: Sandra, what kinds of things did you do with students in your school?

SandraMa: Drill and practice remedial math program for younger students. Fourth graders enjoy a webquest on Virginia studies. Lots of software covering math, language arts, science, etc. Power point, internet research, spreadsheets, databases.

MarianneH: About the webquest? did you develop it, did the classroom teacher or was it already on the web?

MeredithK: Sandra have you only worked in the elementary classes?

SandraMa: The fourth grade team developed the webquest. I review and update resources, then assist teacher and students

MarthaLE: Do you find students are enthusiastic about using Webquests?

MarianneH: For the rest of you. WebQuests (which I am sure most have seen) can be developed in many ways... here the teacher managed the content (it looks like) and the lab assistant supported the technology piece.

SandraMa: Yes, my background with instructional technology is elementary. I have done student teaching at the high school level in special ed classroom

MeredithK: Just curious, I want to teach High School science

MarianneH: Good question Martha. We always guess they will when we develop them ... but don't always see them in action. How about that Sandra?

AllisonHu: Sorry I am late! I hope I haven't missed too much!

BJ: welcome, Allison

AllisonHu: Thank you

MarianneH: nope you will be find .. welcome.

MarianneH: Sandra.. did they like them?

SandraMa: Webquests are very popular. Students are very involved with inquiry based learning rather than passive learning.

MeredithK: Are WebQuests used a lot in classrooms? I haven't been in a classroom yet

MeredithK:to teach

MarianneH: I think, Meredith,

MariaGC: It depends on the school/teacher...from my experience I haven't seen a whole lot of technology being used in the classrooms, much less web quests...

MarianneH: that where they are used will depend on the technology in the school and the way the teacher works with small groups. there probably is not one right answer.

KarenHC: True. I have never seen a web quest being used in my schools.

SandraMa: Webquests I've used have been in the lab. Teachers provide classroom time for students to work individually. This requires working computers and students working without much assistance. Lab settings provide interaction and adult assistance as needed

MeredithK: Sorry I'm still learning about a lot of this, this is only my first semester in my education classes.

LisaCC: so webquests are typically for older grades?

AllisonHu: I saw them used in an English/Language Arts class while I observed.

AllisonHu: It was 7th grade.

MariaGC: No, I think it just depends on the content

MarthaLE: And it depends on the amount of technological resources they have, which for the most part, is not always there in the classroom.

MarianneH: Some teachers are not yet comfortable with a lot of the technology applications. I would like to show you a site we looked at earlier that might help teachers and students better learn the different parts of a particular tool.

MeredithK: I just observed 3 different classes today for another class, and they all had computers in the lab portion of their class, I didn't see them used.

MarianneH: I am going to put up a URL for you to click on. when you do explore the site and the applications on the left side for 5 minutes and then come back we will see if you think this site will be helpful to teachers and students.

MariaGC: sounds good

KarenHC: ok.

MarianneH: <http://www.learningelectric.com>

SandraMa: I have worked with a real mix of teachers. Some cant get enough equipment in the classroom and utilize everything daily. Others only use computers for drill and practice, if that

KimCh: integrating technology into your lesson is time consuming but worth the effort

MarianneH: I agree Kim. Most worthwhile things aren't easy but they are worth the effort.

MarianneH: Now go visit Learning Electric OK?

MeredithK: ok

KimCh: ok

JuliaMP: At the university of Houston- Education program, they insist that we become comfortable with tech. I enjoy using tech.

AllisonHu: I think the use of technology in the classroom can be really amazing. For those teachers who put the time and effort into learning how to use it well, really make an

impact in the classroom. I'll be getting my Master's in Instructional Technology, so this chat is really interesting for me.

MarianneH: Julia, this is a site that will help you learn more about the applications you use.

JuliaMP: That would be great!

AllisonHu: The site is great for beginners or for those who need a memory refresh!

MarianneH: Good, Allison. Hope you will keep coming back and become a part of community support for new teachers.

AllisonHu: I'd love to!

BethHar: I agree with Allison. It would be great if all the teachers really put more of an effort into learning how to use tech. in the classroom.

MarianneH: The site is helpful when you have a quick brain freeze on something you haven't done for awhile.

KarenHC: Oh wow! At first glance, I thought, "This is for teachers who have never been on a computer!" Without trying to brag, I believe UH has done a great job teaching the basics.

BethHar: What was that website...I think that i lost it when I got booted out of the room.

KarenHC: I do like the Kid Pix tutorials, my students use it daily. I never knew what the reasoning behind it was!

MarianneH: <http://www.learningelectric.com>

AllisonHu: A technology instructor at the University of Houston actually does these sorts of tutorials for her students. She creates them all herself, just like the ones here! I'm going to show her this site!

BethHar: Thanks!

MarianneH: You know when we are through you will be getting a transcript of this session (if you are a Tapped In member) and so all of the URLs will be there.)

MelissaLG: I've seen several of these programs at my campus

AllisonHu: Yep! I think that is an awesome feature of Tapped In

KimCh: that is a great site

MarianneH: Do your schools all talk about the NETS-T technology standards for all teachers?

KimCh: yes

MelissaLG: yes

KarenHC: In the second course .

RomanC: that seems like a very interesting site - is it meant for teachers or students?

AllisonHu: The University of Houston does...but I am not sure about the school district I intend to work in.

JuliaMP: Yes. It is a requirement to learn it.

KarenHC: ...Second course of three tech. classes they talk about NETS.

MarianneH: Well, there is another site you may want to know about. It has a way for you to assess where you are and what areas you may need to strengthen. I will put that one up for you right now.

MeredithK: apparently UH does, but I haven't gotten to it yet

AllisonHu: That sounds awesome!

KarenHC: You will see it in CUI 3112 Meredith.

MeredithK: that would be great

MeredithK: thank you Karen

MarianneH: http://www.dow.mass.edu/edtech/standards/sa_tool.htm

KarenHC: No problem.

SandraMa: I like that learning electric breaks lessons down to a manageable amount of information. Students of all ages get overwhelmed by too much too quickly. Teachers can refer back to the site whenever they want to refresh their skills or are ready for the next level

BJ: Hi, Steve. Welcome

SteveLM: Hello

MarianneH: http://www.doe.mas.edu/edtech/standards/sa_tool.html

KarenHC: Sandra, you're right. It helps do it step-by-step for both teachers and students that are new to technology.

MyraW: Knowing how to use technology really opens up a world of ideas. I'm just really learning about all of the different types of technological tools available on the computer! Since I'm not really computer literate, I've just learned how to do a reasonably fair powerpoint. It's fun! This my first time on Tapped In.

SandraS: o O (site still doesn't come up)

MarianneH: http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/standards/sa_tool.html

MarianneH: Please click on the link and see if you can download the PDF file they describe.

MarianneH: Now it will come up

KarenHC: Power Points can be very easy after a while. In the beginning, it seems like you take forever to complete one. With practice, it is fairly quick and simple to present some information to students. I did a presentation today using video, pictures, and sounds of bats. Students love it.

MarthaLE: I enjoyed the learning electric website. the voice activated prompt is easy to follow

RomanC: Yes, I can access the downloads

MelissaLG: I still need to brush up on my powerpoint skills

SandraMa: I've done power point with students as young as second grade. Life cycle of a butterfly, with three slides and a clip art.

KarenHC: The PDF is very detailed.

MarianneH: That file will give you a check list so you can see where your strengths are and what you still need to work on!

JuliaMP: I like that.

LisaCC: I think it's great for teachers to know where they are in technology

KimCh: that is great

MarianneH: And what they need to learn so they can help students.

MeredithK: I never knew there was so much stuff for classes out there and I thought I was pretty handy with the computer.

MarianneH: You know it is pretty hard to teach and integrate if you are not comfortable with the CONTENT or the technology.

MyraW: I've seen fourth graders use powerpoints, but isn't second grade early? How did it go?

MeredithK: I've learned so much this semester

KarenHC: There's always something to brush up on with technology. Sometimes you forget what your weaknesses are and you tend to work on things that are easy to you. This should help give students an overall understanding of technology if you are comfortable with it.

SandraMa: As teachers become more confident of their own skills, they become braver about trying technology integration activities with students

LisaCC: sometimes the students know more than the teachers so this is a good way to find out ones strengths and weaknesses

KarenHC: I did the bat presentation with first graders. They are fascinated with Power Points!

MeredithK: Does working with these different programs become like second nature for teachers who use them on a regular basis.

MarianneH: The most important thing to learn about being a technology-using teacher is that you are never an expert but you are a great life-long learner cause there is always something new.

SandraS applauds Marianne's statement

RomanC: I think a lot of it is not being afraid to try

KarenHC: Exactly. And students help you learn new things on the computer too.

KarenHC: They spark new ideas.

MarthaLE: Oh the bat presentation sounds fascinating. I'm sure they loved that!

SandraMa: I very often ask a student "how did you do that?"

MarianneH: Well, Meredith, second nature, yes, in the sense that you are comfortable but you probably will learn new ways of using it all the time!!

LisaCC: But too much technology can be an overkill! We shouldn't use technology just because, there has to be a purpose for it in the lesson

AllisonHu: You guys are right about the students!! They often have really impressive skills.

MyraW: I agree

MarianneH: There is a saying about teaching. I wonder what you guys think of it and if you understand what it means... Here it comes.-----

MeredithK: So is anyone a HS teacher, or had any experience using different programs for upper level kids and how did it go?

MarthaLE: I think students like when they can see teachers are also in the learning process, and when they see that they can help in educating the teacher, progress is made in establishing a mutual understanding and optimal learning environment for both teacher and student

KarenHC: At my school, teachers pre-selected sites and present them on the big tv for students. I thought that is too boring, so I organized the bat information into asking questions and presenting pictures.

SandraMa: Technology is just one of many useful teaching tools

MarianneH: You can teach one year twenty-five times or you can teach for twenty five years! What do you think of that one.

MelissaLG: I agree too much technology could be over kill

AllisonHu: Marianne, that is very interesting!

MelissaLG: just like students get tired of lecture

RomanC: Sounds like an interesting one. One year would be easier, but it would get boring fast.

AllisonHu: It makes so much sense.

RomanC: boring for the students and the teacher

MeredithK: I like that saying

LisaCC: technology and lesson need to change over the years, you can't use same technology lesson for too many years b/c it will be outdated and boring

KarenHC: Marianne, I think that is like saying you can teach twenty five fulfilling years! Our professors always say to never teach just to teach. Have goals for each year.

MariaGC: yeah...it would definitely get boring, I think that's why so many teachers get burned out and move on to other professions..

SandraMa: We miss so much opportunity to tap into individual students if we don't stay fresh in our teaching

MarianneH: One year twenty five times means they keep using the same material, the same lesson plans, the same technology or what ever.... they forget to grow and learn.

KimCh: I agree

LisaCC: agree

WandaJP: does anyone know of any professional development site in Houston

RomanC: do they forget? or are they lazy

KarenHC: Lisa, that's what I was going to say! A technology lesson may work one year, and be a bore another year. Accommodate the lessons for each group of students every year.

AllisonHu . o O (Since we're in the cafe, I wonder if I can get a big glass of lemonade?)

MeredithK: I agree with all of you. I figure as long as I'm still having fun teaching maybe the students will be having fun learning

MarianneH: Good point, Meredith and well said.

SandraS hands cold glass of lemonade to Allison

AllisonHu gladly accepts the glass. Thanks Sandra!

MarianneH :feels left out. She is thirsty also

SandraS hands another glass to Marianne

SandraS: and to all

LisaCC: However the teacher must enjoy the lesson to be excited about presenting it to their students

MeredithK: thanks

MeredithK: I agree Lisa

MarianneH: Early there was a serious question raised.

MelissaLG: a teacher's enthusiasm about anything is important

SteveLM: The good thing for all of you is that you are at the point where you can use technology. I work with a bunch of people that are almost unwilling to use technology or will not use technology.

MarianneH: the question of the difference between a traditional preservice experience and some of the alternative plans that are now in place and I promised we would come back to it.

MarianneH: Are you some of you in this group in alternative programs now? Where are you, Steve?

SteveLM: PA

MariaGC: Sort of, I am doing an Internship program rather than student teaching....

MarianneH: What state Maria

MariaGC: TX

MarianneH: What does that mean, an internship?

SteveLM: I am hoping in the current preservice programs around here are starting to change

LisaCC: The teacher's personality and enthusiasm will make a classroom effective, not the certification. However, I will be student teaching in the spring

SandraMa: I'm in an interdisciplinary degree program for adult students with previous experience

MeredithK: I'm considering it, but besides being cheaper and quicker I'm not sure of the advantages

WandaJP: where are you Sandra

KarenHC: Marianne, as for UH. Many students are graduating this December and seeking alternative certification through an internship program with UH or elsewhere through ACP this summer.

SandraMa: George Mason University, Virginia It's a Great program!

KarenHC: I will complete student teaching this spring.

MarianneH: Sandra, does that mean you had an associate degree of BA before you started?

MariaGC: It means I graduate in December without certification...I work as a "real" teacher in a school (and get paid) then after 1 yr. I get my certification

SandraMa: Yes, I had completed my associates in education/special ed

KimCh: What are alternative programs?

SteveLM: where do you teach again Maria?

LisaCC: The rest of us are poor for a semester but can get a job in August w/full pay

KarenHC: I believe ACP work for people who have a great amount of classroom experience. I don't think it is the best option for those that have minimum experience around children.

WandaJP: Maria, are you a student at UH

MarthaLE: I may have an opportunity to go into a full time teaching gig, but the thought of doing that rather than traditional student teaching scares me. So I wanted to know what you think of teaching straight out versus having some guidance in student teaching. Financially, it scares me

AllisonHu: To my surprise, I have a friend doing the internship route, and is finding it hard to find a school that will accept her without certification...even as an intern.

JuliaMP: They are programs for people who have a degree in another area, but want to go into teaching.

MariaGC: I am currently in Houston ISD, but will be doing my internship in Aldine ISD (in Houston, TX)

WandaJP: Good information Allison

MarianneH: Sandra, Who are the technology professors in your GMU program?

SteveLM: My wife did a similar program in WI

KarenHC: To graduate in December would be great if a position is offered upfront. In my opinion, it would be great, but the Christmas break does not guarantee a steady job. I

don't want an internship in a classroom where I have not worked with the children all year. That's too tough!

SandraMa: A good school program will not throw you in the classroom without mentoring and guidance. They certainly want you to succeed with the students

AllisonHu: Thanks Wanda. I don't want to scare anyone, but I feel its important to say.

WandaJP: I think it is very hard to do internship from UH

MarianneH: Julia, those are often called MAT Masters of ARTs in Teaching. they bring some content area but not the competencies to work with students. In the technology

MariaGC: the reason I chose to do the internship program is b/c i already have a contract with a school district...otherwise I would be doing student teaching next semester....

RomanC: I don't know of anyone in Ohio doing anything but the traditional student teaching

MarianneH: field we often have business folks who know all the office suite but

KarenHC: It is easier if this were May. Most of us would graduate without student teaching and find jobs easily during summer. It is hard in the middle of the year.

MeredithK: Before entering UH I applied at several ISD's and got good responses and possible jobs, but I hadn't been admitted to any programs yet. I'm in school right now as a Post Bacc student

WandaJP: At Uof H a person would have to pass the qualifiers and obtain a job by 1-18

MariaGC: and yes, it is hard to find a job in the middle of the yr w/o certification

MarthaLE: That was my concern: that I would get a full time teaching job but begin in January when it's the middle of the year for the kids and SOLs are around the corner; would that consume or overwhelm me, I wonder?

MarianneH: have no idea how to use them with children or any of the other possible to tools to expand teach and learning environments.

AllisonHu: I'm going to student teach in the Spring, and I think the experience with be worth it. BUT if you don't student teach, I HIGHLY encourage you all to substitute teach as much as possible before you become a teacher.

MarthaLE: Thanks Allison; that's useful.

SteveLM: The more experience you get the better.

MarianneH: Most states will not allow the hiring of uncertified teachers unless they are being supervised.

JuliaMP: that sounds like a great idea

MelissaLG: subbing will help out a lot

KarenHC: Yes. My principal highly suggested that PUMA students complete student teachers. As a principal, she hinted that this is the best thing to help you wrap up your education. She says it highly prepares you for teaching in August.

AllisonHu: Yes, subbing is great!! You really get good/bad experiences. You need both!

SteveLM: I have been in this profession for 10 years and do different things each year. Keeps it new and enjoyable.

MarianneH: Subbing will let you see what is out there. It will not teach you what best practice or what has truly been successful to improve learning environments.

MeredithK: I know in TX you can be hired as long as you're in the process of being certified

MariaGC: and most school districts pair up first yr teachers with mentors, so u won't be flying solo

WandaJP: I was going to do intern but I got afraid after looking for a job

BethHar: I agree...I thought about Interning but I haven't had any subbing experience, so I decided it would be better to get the guidance through a mentor teacher in student teaching...

MeredithK: I have several friends who went straight into teaching full time from a sub position.

MeredithK: nice to know, Maria

KarenHC: I believe subbing is different because they are children that you do not know as well.

MarianneH: You got it Steve. that is exactly what the earlier quote was about. It is important for you guys to hear from the Steves that join us... the people who are really working with kids all day every day.

KarenHC: Like you said Marianne, it does not teach you how to improve the learning environment.

LisaCC: I haven't subbed yet b/c I know how difficult it is to work with students as a sub

MyraW: You really do get a lot of experience with subbing. I've done it for 6 years now, and it has really given me a heads up in the classroom.

BethHar: Yes but it definitely sharpens your classroom management skills for when you have your own classroom.

WandaJP: OH I wish I could be a sub

AllisonHu: Lisa, I agree, but that is GOOD experience! you learn what classroom management ideas work for you

RomanC: I have subbed, it is not easy, but it is important experience

LisaCC: I think if you have experience w/children beforehand that that will help

MeredithK: as a sub do you specify a class type or level or just get what's available

MarianneH: Some areas are desperately in need of teachers so children get a chance to learn in smaller setting. Some carefully planned alternative programs may be helpful in those settings.

KarenHC: If you don't mind Lisa, do you agree that your experience working with children has helped you with this degree>?

MariaGC: you can specify

MelissaLG: I've subbed for 2 years and have learned a lot

MariaGC: and u only take the jobs you want

SteveLM: What I would recommend is that you go where you need to go to get a long term sub position.

MyraW: In many places you can stipulate what you want.

WandaJP: I would be glad when I finish so I can be a sub

KarenHC: I've worked in a variety of school settings and I can't imagine having learned all of that in one pre-service year!

SteveLM: I think a lot of teachers are afraid to leave where they come from

AllisonHu: In my district, you can accept what area/grade you want. You can even specify on your application which jobs to be called for.

KarenHC: Classroom management skills have to be tried and tested.

SteveLM: I think that it is important to get full time experiences where ever you can.

MarianneH: However you all need to know that from the watching that has been done we have found that folks who come in through alternative certification programs have an average of about 5 years in the field and they leave.

MarthaLE: Why is that, Marianne?

MariaGC: that's sad, but true

LisaCC: Yes, I've worked w/kids for 6 yrs and it's easier to deal with other children when you have experience w/children of the same age. Content material ie-portfolio??

SandraS also wonders why

MeredithK: really. I didn't know that

KarenHC: Martha, because in the words of some people I know, "It isn't my thing." Some people had previous professions and go back to what they are "used to."

LisaCC: Some people just have the teaching skills or they just don't

RomanC: do they not feel they have invested enough to stay through the rough times?

WandaJP: Lisa what age groups do you prefer to work with?

SandraS: is it the work environment? pay?

KarenHC: However, I have a friend who is part of the Teach for America program. He says great things about his training. He is a great teacher who loves all the challenges.

SteveLM: for me the first year was really rough

MariaGC: I think a lot of ppl who do the alt. cert. programs think that teaching is easy, and we all know that's not true

MarthaLE: I see. I realize it will be hard but I think it's hard to grasp it until you're actually in it.

LisaCC: All ages 3/4-10/11

MeredithK: what about people who choose the alternative programs for expedience purposes

KarenHC: I think you have to have the personality to stay strong with children.

MariaGC: definitely

MarthaLE: Steve, in what ways, was it tough the first year? One hears so much about the first year?

MeredithK: I think teaching isn't something that should be chosen on a whim...you really have to want to do it

SteveLM: I think because I did not have the support staff that I may have needed or maybe because I did not ask for enough help.....

WandaJP: Lisa do you think that you would be able to work with highschool kids?

MarianneH: Partly it is not having enough previous experience and knowledge in a supervised and helpful setting ... and too quickly... and often go into setting where there in not the kind of support that beginning teachers need. The college where I taught had seminars (free) for graduates all during their first year on a monthly basis. First year teaching is called survival... classroom management, the new pressure for assessment in all forms, so many things that take a while to become comfortable with. some schools provide colleague-mentors to new teachers... even experienced but new to the school. every school has its own culture and context and that takes time to learn as well.

SteveLM: I took too much on by myself....

KarenHC: Yes! Meredith. Programs have gotten more strict about the intentions of applicants.

LisaCC: I originally set out to do that, but changed my mind. I prefer child to young adults

MarianneH: go on Steve. All, watch what Steve is saying.

MarthaLE: Do you find seasoned teachers are quick or reluctant to help new teachers?

SteveLM: I think that the first year you really need to ask a lot of questions and make sure that you are with someone who is willing to guide you along.

WandaJP: How often do you get sub jobs?

KarenHC: I think my fear next year will be assessments. I feel as though that would make me nervous to assign a grade! But I hear they give plenty of training in the beginning of the year.

MeredithK: are most seasoned teachers willing to help new teachers??

MelissaLG: I agree

SteveLM: I am not sure if most teachers are willing.

SandraS agrees with Steve

AllisonHu: Wanda, I am not sure who you were asking...but I personally get sub offers pretty much every week

MeredithK: I guess you have to find one that's willing to help

MarianneH: Wanda and Karen, did you watch what Steve is saying. You guys are talking to each other and NOT giving those who have some thing you need to speak. Slow down and watch.

SandraMa: Standards of learning make it difficult to teach beyond specific guidelines. Family dynamics have changed and much more child rearing is becoming a teacher's job. Dedicated teachers are a wonderful community, and are very happy to help and support each other.

WandaJP: I am not either

MarthaLE: That was my fear: that the community of teachers may not be as welcoming as some would think

SteveLM: sometimes there are induction programs that set new teachers up with mentors that are willing to help.

KarenHC: I think Lisa can agree (we are at the same school). That if you ask, so many people are willing to answer questions. Even as a student, I constantly ask questions. People love to answer them if they are supportive.

BJ: STOP TYPING AND LISTEN TO STEVE, PLEASE

SteveLM: I know that I do not have the best organizational skills but.....

SteveLM: myself and other teachers know how the system works.

SteveLM: Like I said before, It is important to link yourself with someone that is willing to help.

SteveLM: Do you all have any other questions?

MarianneH: But remember, you are going to be learning how that school works. Steve, what about teachers that come in with new ideas\

LisaCC: Thank you for your real life experience, it was helpful

AllisonHu: This has been very informative, and I appreciate all the information.

MyraW: Why do you think that teachers are reluctant to be mentors for others?

MarianneH: Are they welcome in your setting.

KimCh: no

KarenHC: No.

MeredithK: I was wondering if any of the people from Houston have teaching jobs, and if they have had good experiences with experienced teachers and their willingness to help

MarianneH: good question, Myra and the answer is

SteveLM: I think that teachers are very busy....some do not want to be bothered.

SandraMa: In the school system I work in, mentors are provided to all new teachers, this is a requirement and there is a strong support through the mentoring program

MarianneH: TIME

JuliaMP: I am teaching Science adventures after school- 2-5th every Wed. It is fun!

WandaJP: I am also not sure is pairing new teachers with those not willing to change their teaching styles is such a good idea

SteveLM: I think those mentors are provided because they are willing to help...

MarianneH: more than bothered... it is not always appreciated or rewarded either

SteveLM: they do not pick people that do not have time for new teachers.

MeredithK: I never knew that teachers were so unwilling to help new teachers

WandaJP: I am student teaching now and none of the teachers are doing what we are learning

MeredithK: sorry...that's kind of sad

MarianneH: Wanda. that is what a good administrator has to know... who would make a good mentor. Your point is well taken.

SteveLM: It is not that all are unwilling

MelissaLG: neither our the teachers I've observed

MariaGC: my mentor teacher is very helpful and always willing to answer questions, but unfortunately I've heard of others who aren't so kind

MarianneH: LET.. STEVE FINISH PLEASE

SteveLM: Feel free when you do get out there to drop me a line in my office if you have any questions

WandaJP: I agree Maria

SteveLM: I will be having office hours on Monday at 9PM eastern

MarianneH: Thanks, Steve. That is a very generous offer.

MarthaLE: Thanks

WandaJP: Is it every Monday Steve

SteveLM: I gave a presentation to a technology conference yesterday and told the attendees that I will be available on Monday.

MarianneH: And that is what we hope this group can do as it grows. Support each other.

MeredithK: thanks...sorry for all the questions, I'm just curious

SteveLM: If you feel that you would like to chat on Mondays that would be fine.

AllisonHu: I am looking forward to continuing on with this group.

MarianneH: Never be sorry when you ask good questions.

SteveLM: Let me know what you think?

MeredithK: thanks Marianne

WandaJP: Thanks Steve

MarianneH: We will be here again in January and hope you will all come back. We are taking a December break and we hope you are too. <grin>

RomanC: thanks everyone

MarthaLE: Sorry if we intruded during dialogue. This was my first time on a chat room. I appreciate the Hints!

KarenHC: I apologize for so many responses Steve. I kept thinking you were finished with your thoughts.

SteveLM: I get carried away at times

MarianneH: Watch for three dots. that usually means there is more coming.

SteveLM smiles

LisaCC: Thank you all

MyraW: Thanks, Marianne! And thanks to everyone for the great conversation. I learned a lot.

AllisonHu: Thanks! Good luck to everyone!!

KarenHC: Marianne, Steve, and everyone else. Thank you for your advice. Have a great night.

KimCh: Thanks to all of you

SteveLM: Write me a note on my whiteboard if you would like to stop in on Monday

SteveLM: or just show up

MarianneH: It has been a good meeting with a lot of enthusiasm. Glad you all had a lot to say.

MeredithK: Steve you're very helpful

RomanC: Thanks Marianne

SteveLM: No problem

SandraMa: This has been a good reminder to me of how difficult it is for the "newbys" on staff. I will keep this in mind and be supportive to them!

PogyongC: I got many things, thank you all

StevenCR: Thanks for letting me observe. Much can be applied to experienced teachers that have not yet grasped the use of tech tools. I might suggest they visit this chat in January.

SteveLM: Good luck with all of your teaching endeavors

MeredithK: thanks have a good night everyone

MyraW: I'll be back in January. Have a good holiday.