

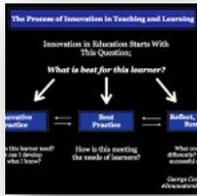


A Newsletter for Beginning Teachers in NC

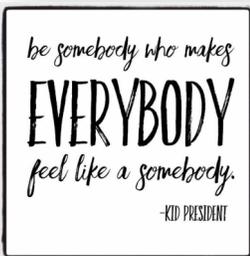


Regional Education Facilitators-NC Department of Public Instruction
www.regedfac.ncdpi.wikispaces.net/home

Reach and Teach



“Technology accelerates everything, including bad practice in education” - <http://bit.ly/2wx6A9n> #trudatchat



When you acknowledge & engage your students in the learning process, you're treating everybody like they are somebody! #edchat



It is the beginning of a new school year! It is a time that I always greet with mixed emotions. You may be surprised to find out that in the weeks and days leading up to the first day of school, I am filled with so much anxiety that I find it hard to eat or sleep. A whole host of questions race through my mind and fill me with fear: Is my room conducive to learning? Are the lessons I am planning rigorous and relevant, yet fun and engaging? Will I be able to connect with my students and their families? Yes, this is the North Carolina Teacher of the Year telling you that I experience doubts and fears about my abilities to reach and teach children. You may feel the same way and experience self-doubt. I need you to know that this is normal and, quite honestly, I would be concerned if you didn't feel this way. When the worrying stops and the importance of meeting student

needs doesn't cause you to have some sleepless nights, then that is when teaching has become a job for you. THAT would cause me concern. It is my hope that you will always consider what you do a mission and not a job.

I hold dear the realization that one of the greatest freedoms that we have as Americans is the right to a free education. That freedom extends to ALL people, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or disability. This freedom sets us apart from other nations and is a cornerstone of what makes our country so great. Through the public education system, we have the opportunity to break the cycle of generational poverty and allow students to tap into their inner gifts, which provides them with the tools to become forward thinkers with a plan and purpose for their lives. You are equipping our young people with the knowledge and power to achieve their dreams and to become responsible members of our society.

Make an effort to REACH your students before you try to TEACH them. Strong relationships will create the firm foundation you need to make the magic happen! Perhaps you will not see your full influence until much later, but know this; you are critical to North Carolina's future. More importantly, you matter to North Carolina's children. There is no greater mission in life than this!

In closing, I want to share a quote that I have always loved by Mahatma Gandhi- "There go my people. I must follow them for I am their leader." I want you to know that you are not alone. YOU are my people and I am right behind you. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to me through any of the outlets I have listed below. Have a wonderful school year!

All my best,

Lisa Godwin
2017 North Carolina Teacher of the Year
lisagodwinNCTOY@gmail.com
(Facebook) /lisa.godwinNCTOY
(Twitter) @tarhokie

North Carolina Beginning Teacher Chat on Twitter



Join in the conversation with beginning and veteran teachers from all eight regions of North Carolina. You do not want to miss it! On **September 11th from 7-8 pm** log in to your Twitter account and follow the hashtag #NCBTChat to participate.

