



A Newsletter for Beginning Teachers in NC



YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!

Congratulations on reaching the end of the year! Here's hoping that your year was memorable and one where your students achieved and you grew as a professional.

When testing is over, how will you end the year with your students? You will continue to have high quality engaging lessons daily. It's important to keep the students in a routine. When children spend time off task, behavior issues are more likely to occur. This can make for a difficult close to the school year. Remember, on any given day, you should stay alert & brave.

stay calm & disciplined.

stay engaged & focused.

stay gracious & humble.

stay interesting & jovial.

stay kind & listen.

stay motivated & notable.

stay open & polite.

stay quiet & respectful.

stay strong & tactful.

stay unique & vivacious.

stay welcoming & youthful.



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A Message from : Northeast Region Teacher of the Year– Jami Dickerson



Wow! Can you believe that it is May? While you are trudging through the school year, it seems as if it will never finish. Then, the next thing you know, spring break is over and we have little time left with our children! To me, it seems like every year flies by faster than the last. What a bittersweet feeling. Aristotle said "Educating the mind without educating the heart, is no education at all." These words ring true to me all year long, but especially now. If you teach in the third grade or higher, you are feeling the pressure of testing starting to weigh on your shoulders. It is in our nature to want to succeed and have all students pass with flying colors. This is extremely important for our state as well as to reflect on yourself as a teacher and all your hard work. With that being said, do not let the pressure of testing consume your last months with your students. Yes, review time is crucial. Yes, it's crunch time. Yes, your principal will be analyzing

your testing data. But never again, will you have THESE last weeks with your students. Relish in them. Enjoy the small things. I am sure there are some students you will shed tears over as they leave. Some students you will be excited for their future and what major things they will accomplish. I also know there are some you will want to boot out the door! Please try and remember, you matter to each child in some way and you are vitally important in every child's life that you teach. We spend more time with them than almost anyone. They truly are "our children." They spend every day with you and then BOOM! Just like that, it is summer and they have to leave you, willingly or unwillingly. It can really take a toll on a child, as well as a teacher. Cherish the small things. Hug them more often. Let your guard down. Have fun with them. Be silly. Sing. Dance. Love what they love! Enjoy them. For this moment will soon fade away. As

May comes in and you are getting excited to succeed in your testing subject, remember what works best for all learners. The Three R's: Relationships, Rigor, and Relevancy. As I've stated above, relationships are crucial for testing success. Your students must feel loved, appreciated, and believe that you have confidence they will succeed. This is a win-win for us all! Rigor and relevancy go hand in hand as we start preparing for our state testing. Our students have been working hard for many months now. Try and change it up. Keep them on their toes! Try a lesson you have never done before. Play a new review game that seems a little risky or silly. Let them work on a review project so they get to have fun and interact with their peers. Now is the time! Only one more month! All of your hard work will pay off. Now is the time to take risks, persevere, and succeed in only a way that a teacher can. You are so powerful! Your students love you! You are making a difference. Enjoy today!

Jami Dickerson – Pitt County Schools – Eastern Elementary School



We Want to Hear From YOU!



The Regional Education Facilitators with the NC Department of Public Instruction would like for beginning teachers to complete a questionnaire so that statewide support can be tailored more to the needs of beginning teachers based on the data received.

After a few quick logistical questions, teachers will have an opportunity to share reflections from the year and what additional support might be needed to continue to help them learn and grow pro-

professionally. Answers are confidential and there are no identifying questions.

Using the link provided, please take a few minutes to complete the short questionnaire.

<http://goo.gl/forms/XA9V0dSRgb>

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the students in your classrooms this year. Remember, as a teacher, you lay the foundation for students to be successful, not

only academically, but also in life. What you do day in and day out has a tremendous impact on the future. You change the world!

Enjoy your break!



Reminder: Beginning Teacher Summits will be held in the 8 regions the last week in June! Ask your coordinator for details on how to attend from your district/school. Space is limited to 100 participants per region.