



A Newsletter for Beginning Teachers in NC

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Six Phases of Teachers Which Phase Are You?

Anticipation 1– Excitement for the new year

Survival– Barely managing all the requirements of teaching

Disillusionment– Questioning the decision to teach due to being overwhelmed by the magnitude of the job

Rejuvenation– Realizing that students' success is directly tied to the work of the teacher, the light at the end of the tunnel is visible

Reflection– Reviewing the successes and “failures” of the year and identifying the changes that will be made

Anticipation 2– Renewed excitement for the next year, feeling more confident in one's abilities

Based on research from UNC-W

A Message from Elizabeth Padgett: Charter School Teacher of the Year



Welcome aboard to our newest North Carolina teachers! You are amongst others in our state who have the hearts and minds of children in the palm of your hands. What an exciting opportunity for you to be able to help mold and shape our future scientists, computer analysts, accountants, engineers, news reporters, business owners, politicians, and even presidents! And you chose to teach for a reason. Was it the teacher you had in kindergarten who told you it was going to be okay and comforted you when you had to tell her (after keeping the class gerbil at your house over the weekend) that you “broke” the gerbil's tail off by holding him up and swinging him back and forth for fun? Or could it have been the middle school science teacher who

encouraged you to stand firm in your beliefs and true to yourself no matter what middle school girl drama was going on around you? Maybe it was your high school math teacher who pushed you to your limits in class and taught you to go beyond what you thought you could achieve and the feeling that overcame you when you did, in fact, succeed? Someone or *something* brought you into this amazing and rewarding profession. Your rewards come when you see a student's face light up when you notice the new outfit they are wearing or come to one of their after school games. You are rewarded every time they give you a hug or want to come and talk to you about a personal issue or problem they may be facing at

home. You are rewarded when you see that little light bulb go off above their heads, and they smile and say, “Oh...that's how it works!” And those are the kinds of rewards that money can't buy...they are truly priceless! Just remember that teaching is not *all* about the content being taught in the classroom. It is so much more. It is about the relationships you establish with your students inside and out of the classroom. Your students will want to succeed when they you know you care about them and that you value each and every one of them as unique individuals with different learning styles. YOU can make such a positive and memorable impact on your students and who knows, maybe someday, you will be the one they will never forget.

Elizabeth Padgett– Lake Norman Charter School-Huntersville, NC– 2015 Charter Teacher of the Year



NC is thankful for you!



Teacher Observations and Professional Development



By now, the first round of observations has probably been completed and the second round is forthcoming. It is important to reflect on the indicators that are marked Developing and look for opportunities to demonstrate proficiency on those before the next observation.

Reach out to your mentor, academic/instructional coach, and/or administrator for ideas, strategies, or examples of how to improve that area. *For 3rd year teachers, one requirement for converting to a SP 2 license is a rating of proficient on Standards 1-5 on the*

Summary Rating. Remember there are also free PD opportunities that are available. The **Professional Development** section of Home Base houses **modules** that are a valuable resource for teachers who are searching for PD geared toward a specific need.