

Those that teach know that teaching is not a full time job; rather it is a life choice. When one makes the decision to become a teacher, one also makes the decision to be a role model. While I feel like I can never do enough to help those in need, currently my focus revolves around building relationships among students, to help them become successful academically and supporting fellow colleagues in doing the same.

Currently, I co-edit the Coats-Erwin Middle School yearbook. In doing so, I have the opportunity to photograph students not simply in the academic setting, but also in an athletic setting. Confidence and attitudes are boosted when students are proudly displayed in the yearbook. Next year, I plan to include students in designing the yearbook as well. I will organize and lead a yearbook club that includes students who yearn for a greater sense of belonging.

Next, students need academic support, outside of the classroom. This extra time dedicated to strictly the mathematical success of students again, helps to build confidence among students. Making myself available and willing to help current and previous students, at any time helps students strive to meet high academic expectations that I have for them.

Finally, becoming a mentor to fellow teachers is equally as important as mentoring students. Caring for students, and their future involves support and innovative ideas from all staff members involved in the children's life. Therefore, for two consecutive years, I have volunteered at the Harnett County Schools Technology Conference to encourage fellow colleagues to utilize technology to help motivate students in the classroom. In addition, I have led multiple technology related seminars within Coats-Erwin Middle School to motivate and support fellows in the latest technology resources available. By not only supporting students, but also fellow teachers, all students will gain a more positive viewpoint on their education.