
REFLECTION JOURNALS

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Closing In: A Bittersweet Ending Looms

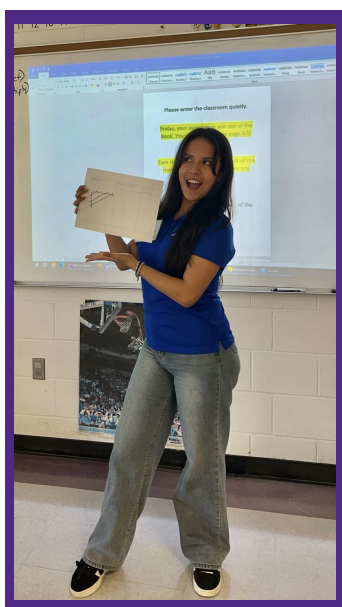
Classroom Context

Although the beginning was rough, we have gradually grown closer to the students, strengthening our relationships and refining our roles in the classroom. Along the way, we have learned what works best for students—engaging techniques, effective discipline strategies, and the differences between honors and on-level classes. This journey has been a valuable learning experience, making the upcoming farewell feel bittersweet.

Being part of the classroom has become second nature, seamlessly fitting into the routine of Mr. Barnes' 4th and 5th periods every Tuesday. It will feel strange not to be there anymore, but the memories and lessons will stay with us.



Bitter – Sweet



Classroom Insight

To enhance our learning experience, we have observed the positive impact of implementing effective disciplinary measures in the classroom. A noticeable transformation has taken place, particularly in managing cell phone usage, maintaining appropriate language, and redirecting off-topic conversations. For example, instead of being on their phones, students now use the calculators provided by Mr. Barnes, allowing them to stay focused on their work. Mr. Barnes has refined his teaching approach by first presenting the problem, demonstrating the steps, and showing the solution before assigning students their own set of questions to solve independently. He also encourages peer collaboration and discussion while actively walking around the room to ensure full participation. While maintaining a fun and comfortable learning environment, Mr. Barnes has tightened his approach as the school year comes to an end, preparing his students for their upcoming tests with a structured and disciplined atmosphere.

Future Lessons

Saying goodbye to these students will definitely be bittersweet. Although our time with them was brief, they played a significant role in our learning process as future educators. For our final class, Shaktie and I want to create a fun and engaging formative assessment. We want to leave on a positive note, and what better way to do that than by incorporating a game that allows the students to reflect on their geometry knowledge while having fun?

Level of Comfort

I would rate my comfort level in teaching today as a five. Although we didn't create a formative assessment, I continued conducting interviews with the students for my Special Research Project. I had the opportunity to connect with the students on a one-to-one level and learn more about them beyond the classroom setting.
