

Context for Teaching

I am a math teacher at DaVinci Academy of Arts & Science in Blaine, MN, and I am very successful. I teach 7th and 8th grade math standards as well as geometry and math support. As a middle school math teacher, my students average a 92% MCA passing rate and a 70% MCA exceeds rate. Our school in general is a high-achieving school (coincidentally since I've been there) and we are a 5 out of 5 reward school and this year we became a Blue Ribbon school. I am the curriculum coordinator for middle school math and we use the Holt Curriculum which is common amongst surrounding districts. We have about a 15% SPED population and about a 25-30% diversity rate. There is a 0% discrepancy between low-income and normal/high income. We have 1 ELL student and dozens of gifted and talented students. We are about 75% low-middle income and about 25% high income. We are a charter school that has a lottery system. Only 50 students get in per year out of 600. As for middle school, we have 1-to-1 chrome book for each class and we utilize technology as much as we can. I am currently the middle school leader and run a ski club in the winter. We take a yearly trip to Eagle Bluff to build rapport and buy-in with students. High expectations run throughout our school and we try to teach the DaVinci Way to new teachers and new students. It is a school effort.