

Rebecca Blank

Teaching as a Profession

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### Teacher Interview

For my teacher interview I chose LeAnn Frauendorfer, who teaches English and is the head Speech coach at Battle Creek Public High School in Battle Creek, Nebraska. I went to grade school with Mrs. Frauendorfer's son Christian and was also a member of the same 4-H club. She was also the one who taught me how to write a speech.

I really enjoyed interviewing Mrs. Frauendorfer, she gave me lots of helpful advice and incite that she has gathered from her years as a teacher. She said that while she believes that teaching is both an art and a science, it might lean a little more towards an art because it is something you become a part of and fully immerse yourself in. Everyone teaches differently, it is pure personality. She told me that in order to be successful as a teacher you have to love what you are doing and that you have to have a lot of patience. She also encouraged me to learn as much as I can about technology and to continue to keep up with the new advances in technology, because that is something that she wishes she had done that would be really helpful now.

I was really interesting for me to learn that both Mrs. Frauendorfer and I were drawn to teaching for some of the same reasons. We both have a love for the subject area, and want a career where we have the opportunity to spend time with family. Mrs. Frauendorfer said that the greatest reward she gets from teaching is seeing the difference she makes in the kids she teaches.

The best advice I got from Mrs. Frauendorfer was to get as many different viewpoints of teachers as possible, but in the end to do what works best for me, and develop my own teaching style, because everyone is different and you have to do what works best for you.

What drew you to a career in teaching?

Mostly the love of the subject, and a desire to be in a career where I could spend time with my family.

Looking back, what could have helped you become more prepared for the real world of teaching while you were still a student in college?

More time in a classroom, compared to you now, we had way less time in classrooms before student teaching.

What were the biggest challenges you faced as a rookie teacher?

Discipline and finding a balance to get everything done that you needed to get done in one day.

What are the greatest rewards you get from teaching?

Seeing the difference you make in the kids.

How have you and your teaching style changed since your first year of teaching?

I've incorporated more strategies for discipline and developed new learning styles for kids that learn a little differently.

What do you think teachers **MUST** have in order to be successful?

Lots of patience, and a love for what they're doing.

Do you think teaching is more of an *art* or a *science*? Why?

Both, but if I had to pick one, I'd say an art, because it's something you become a part of, and everyone is different. Teaching is pure personality.

What do you think your most important role as a teacher should be?

To show the students how they can become a productive member of society.

If you had your professional career to do all over again, what would you do differently?

I would learn more about technology as it progresses.

Since I'm just getting started, what kind of advice would you give to me?

Get as many viewpoints of different teachers as possible, but in the end do what works for you, and find your own teaching style.