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Kristin >

Hi Kristin ! Welcome to faculty feature Friday! 🤗 what is your position at SHSD?

I am the special education teacher in a fifth grade ICT classroom at Birchwood.

What's your favorite part about your job

The kids- For me it is all about the children. I love getting to know each and every student in my class and letting them know me. Trust and feeling safe is everything in learning. That's when learning can happen. Watching these kids take risks in learning, grow and discover in the classroom or in simple exploration is an amazing experience. The best part is watching the look in their eyes when they first begin to read, solve a math problem or when they have that 'lightbulb moment' and they can't wait to explain their discoveries. That's the magic of teaching.

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Kristin >

I love that! The kids are so lucky to have you

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself that not many people know about.

Hmmm related to teaching or other

either or both!

Ok

I share this with my students every year. When I was little, my dad would ask each of us on New Years Eve what we wanted to be when we grew up. When I was five I said I wanted to be a ballerina or a teacher. I'm a tomboy at heart so the ballerina idea is pretty funny to me. I usually do my best ballerina mice in class and the students tell me I made the right choice with teaching!

I do love music and spend my free time, mostly in the summer, country line dancing for fun.

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Kristin >



Speaking of music What's your favorite song that you can't help but sing along to?

 That's definitely not me dancing

HA
HA

Starting Over by Chris Stapleton
Chicken Fried by Zac Brown Band

What is one of your favorite memories from when you were in high school?

The first thing that came to mind was going to my first night football game with my friends as a freshman. I just remember feeling soooo grown up to be there without my parents.

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Kristin >



Classic!

Send a pic of your pet, if you have one.

I do not have a pet. I had a golden retriever years ago who was very special to me as most pets are. His name was Jax.

Love golden retrievers. Had one as a kid too. Duffy ❤️

Favorite movie?

Sabrina with Harrison Ford and Julia Ormand- It's from 1995 but it's a favorite.

Love it

What's one school event you look forward to every year?

Definitely the fifth grade minithon. I absolutely love this event. The end of fifth grade is filled with bonding experiences for the students to

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Definitely the fifth grade minithon. I absolutely love this event. The end of fifth grade is filled with bonding experiences for the students to spend time together and feel like leaders to the younger students. They worked hard in school and these events are celebrations. The minithon brings out the best in all of the students. We usually gather together with Maplewood and the Phys Ed Department. Teachers run or walk with students in this event. Each person competes against themselves which is wonderful because you are trying for YOU. I get into it because I have always enjoyed running and I like to encourage the kids to try it even if it's just for that day. In the last few years I mainly walk and hike but I always run that event. We stretch together before, hydrate, talk about pacing ourselves. Sometimes kids ask me to run with them or I secretly decide who I will be encouraging as I run. When I run past students who start to walk I say, "I'm 56, don't let me pass you! Come on you can do it!" They giggle and start jogging

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We stretch together before, hydrate, talk about pacing ourselves. Sometimes kids ask me to run with them or I secretly decide who I will be encouraging as I run. When I run past students who start to walk I say, "I'm 56, don't let me pass you! Come on you can do it!" They giggle and start jogging with me. So much of this job is about seeing kids. When they feel seen, they smile, they try, they feel 'part of', and they do more for themselves.

When I finish racing I grab water and go right to 'the home stretch' and start cheering the runners on. So many stop running when they enter the home stretch. It's amazing what a little cheer can do. They all start running again. A cheer says 'I see you!'

We end the event with a class planking contest. It's something we do in class to get rid of the wiggles. It's just a fun thing to do in the grass together at that event before boarding the bus. The minithon is a great day.

So fun !!! Yes!

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Kristin >

So fun !!! Yes!

And finally - who would you like to nominate next to be on faculty feature Friday?

Ahhh I was how this interview came to be. Do I get to find out who nominated me?

Nope 🧐



Love it

Hmmm

Sean Ryan - he's retiring this year and would get into it.

Great! Thank you so much Kristin! This was fun - happy Valentine's Day! ❤️

Read 5:10 PM

Thx yes it was !
Happy Valentine's Day ❤️

