

OASNP Conversation Capture

Thankful we didn't go on strike.

Adjustment not being in a classroom - working virtually means that I don't see kids as much but two weeks ago I started working directly with a student. This was like a ray of sunshine directly to my heart to do this. Reminder of what keeps me doing this work.

Very special group of kids in our district who we are working with in a different way and we were able to work with them in a supportive way through remote learning. When we returned to the classroom they were so happy to be back and it was an affirmation of what we do.

One of my students got their driver's license and I was one of the first people he called.

Received my vaccine at the school and was able to actually see the kids we serve. It meant so much to see them. We haven't been seeing them.

Working with a woman who got chosen to be in a film, which has been her dream.

Challenges

We've all had so many. Virtual students are struggling. It brings me a lot of sadness when I know the kids are not able to learn.

I have not been with my students. Not able to support the people I work with. I don;t get to meet the student, teacher and family. There are so many things that you gain through environmental things. Seeing through a screen is a challenge. I started researching motivational interviewing to try to learn more about the students and adults. Started using questions like, "Tell me what that looks like."

Students are half in person, half virtual, no curriculum, demands of lesson plans but nothing to actually use in terms of curriculum. Supervisor is a problem.

How to collaborate with those in our buildings/districts who are not team players and do not like confrontation to the point of avoiding all colleagues.

Constant interruptions - even social interruptions

-How to balance teaching in person and remotely at the same time when all of the students need you at the same time.

-Information on mental health for students and teachers.

- How to help teams collaborate and get more out of their collaboration.

- Technology upgrade, mental health support, balance work

Lack of support by building Administration, however colleagues are great.

Inclusion is powerful! Male student with Special Needs was Homecoming King. Gives hope.

Admin using pandemic as an excuse to add, change, pile on expectations

Challenge - People who discount us and the expertise we do have publicly.

Provide services and keep data like nothing changed when not in the brick & mortar. No support from the Director of Student Services. Wrote an IEP in May when it was due and nothing was done with it until September. Continued to provide services and kept documentation even though IEP was expired.

Struggling with those who do not show mutual respect - discounting our expertise because we're "just intervention specialists" or may not have been in district as long as others

Thankful to be able to get outside and try to see things in a positive way in order to stay in a good frame of mind through the pandemic.

Positives: Thankful to be able to go to work and see kids in person; coming together and building leaders during a crisis

Challenges: inconsistent with being in person and going virtual during the school year- especially with Sped population; isolation between students and staff; so many changes within the classroom and fear of the unknown; Social distancing, MOU changes, not much support from admin

Has an assistant who has no experience and is teaching her assistant as well as the kids.

Election challenges; thankful for OEA to step in and help sort things out

Thankful to see the kids return to some sense of normalcy, thankful for some support from administration and follow staff members

Lack of subs

Lack of Respect from Students.

Lack of mental health support for the students and professionals

Missing the opportunity to talk and share with other professionals (zoom doesn't work for this)

Missing that commute to/from work where you would talk with peers as well as talking to students/teachers in the hall

Sometimes people just want to be heard and are dealing with similar issues with the rest of us respect.understanding.grace.

Achievement Gaps due to the Pandemic

Technology as a whole, specifically Google Classroom

This entire year-celebrating the small victories

Issues around race-supportive admins taking next steps

Keeping members engaged and positive-

Kids wanting to be in school everyday-encouraging students every day

Create an OASNP Google Classroom so we can seek professional advice from ourselves as professionals.