

C F A



Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2020



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Many of you know that my father passed away at the beginning of this month. He was a teacher for 56 years who retired (for the second time), in May of this year. I worry, when I think about it, that he left retirement too late - that he didn't give himself enough time at the end of his work life to truly enjoy the fruits of his years of labor.

But when I really consider who my dad was, in many ways, the fruit, for him, was his labor. He loved teaching. He loved being with his students, and was always picking my brain about new ways to reach them. He loved hearing about their successes and knowing that he had some influence on their lives. He was, at his core, a teacher.

This is relatable for all of us who have chosen a career in education. We know that the rewards of teaching are great. We delight in watching our students learn - even via Zoom. We invest our time and energy into creatively teaching, often at the expense of our own life/work balance. We are there for our students, learning new technology to do so. We do what we need to do, despite the costs.

We do all of this because we know that our work matters. It is more than a job, it is an identity, and one that we don't just shake off at the end of the day. We do all of this because it is who we are at our core.

You are doing a good job.

Of course you are.

You are teachers.

-Kara Evans

# A PEEK INTO DISTANCE LEARNING: positive moments



ANNE DIEKEN

*"Worked with a 3rd/4th class on troubleshooting. I've missed working with kids, and this class was pleasant and patient."*

HANNAH CORRALES

*"Seeing my students' smiling faces in the morning, but especially when they tell me they're going to miss me as we log off. I love the connection that we've been able to create, even from a distance!"*



BARBARA BILDERBACK



*"When students jump in and trouble shoot for one another! They are so sweet, caring and knowledgeable"*



# PAULA ASINAS

*"I've made a conscious effort to really take time each day to slow down and focus on the social emotional needs of my students. Even though I don't see them in person, they all know they are cared for and that I'm rooting for them."*

# DEBBIE FOSTER

*"Having 46 students on zoom doing a 3 minute warm up and all doing it. Not one turned off camera."*

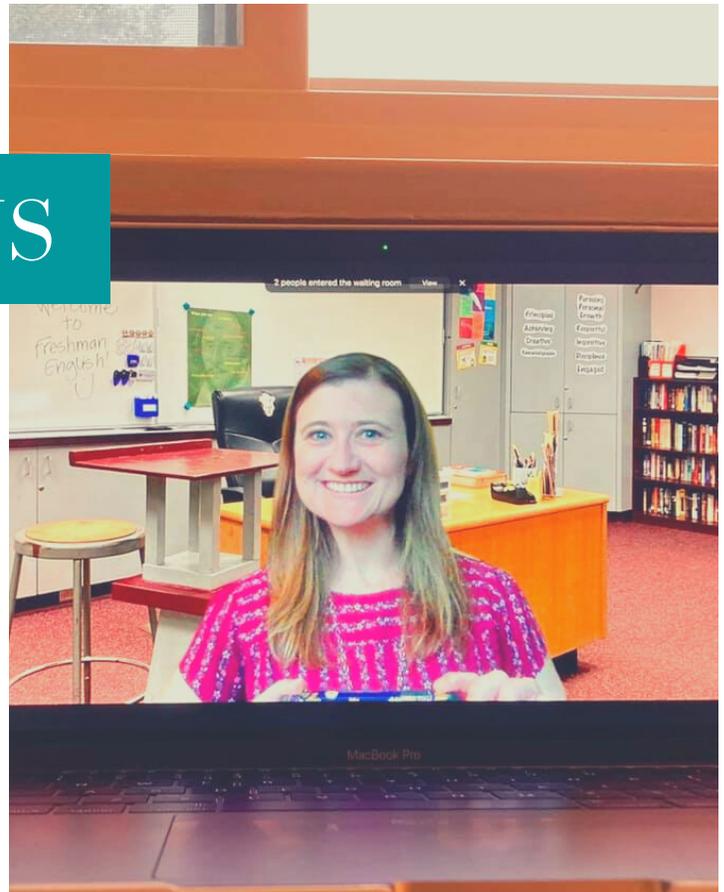


# KRISTA CARSON ELHAI

*"Seeing the kids laugh and smile."*

# ALLISON EVANS

*"When my students helped each other find the Canvas comments on the iPads since they are not as noticeable."*



# AMANDA HANNAN

*"Parent feedback about how much their kids are loving school."*

# A PEAK INTO DISTANCE LEARNING: blooper moments

"Closing all of the breakout rooms by accident-three times in a row." -Krista Carson Elhai

"When I muted myself while I talked to a colleague during Wolfcast and muted the entire Wolfcast!" -Allison Evans

"My student telling me my breathing ball looks like the corona virus (He's totally right!)" -Amanda Hannan

"When I think I'm screen sharing but I'm not and I am several minutes into a presentation..." -Barbara Bilderback

"Students chatting to me that I cannot hear their questions. After 5 minutes of troubleshooting I realized I had the volume at zero."  
-Adrienne Fong

"My internet provider shut down internet to my area 10 minutes into a class."  
-Cynthia Green

"Trying to start a lesson on Zoom while my dog barks like mad at squirrels taunting him with their swishy tails outside our living room window." -Lisa Schuster

"Getting upset that nobody was responding to my question and after two minutes realized my mic was muted."  
-Jose Ancona

"Teaching for a minute straight with the mute button on and not one student told me! One student finally let me know and told me that she thought we were playing a guessing game." -Hannah Corrales

# CFA SOCIAL

## Pumpkin Carving Contest



THE WINNER OF THE PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST WAS *KANDICE CHUA*, A MATH TEACHER AT CLAREMONT HIGH SCHOOL. KANDACE ENTERED TWO PUMPKINS UNDER THE "CUTE" CATEGORY AND TOOK HOME THE PRIZE!

# NOVEMBER ELECTION

## New Board Members

CONGRATULATIONS TO **BOB FASS** AND  
**KATHY ARCHER** ON BEING SELECTED AS  
THE NEWEST CLAREMONT SCHOOL  
BOARD MEMBERS.

