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Teaching During Covid

Rita Guritz

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Teaching During Covid

Rita Guritz

How has the pandemic changed your daily life?

As a high school teacher, the pandemic caused our district to teach our students remotely for the safety for everyone in our community. Relationship building is a critical element in teaching high school students, this was made much more difficult in a remote teaching setting. I searched for any little tidbit about my students so I could build a connection with them.

What positive things or unexpected moments of joy have come out of this experience?

A major positive of the pandemic experience has been the chance to slow down and appreciate sunshine, cooking, and re-evaluating what is important in my life.

What has been the hardest aspect of this experience?

The learning curve for teaching remotely was a mountain, but we did it because there was just no other way. I found an amazing pride in what I have been able to learn about technology.

What are you nervous and/or excited about for the coming academic year?

I get excited when I get to see students and fellow teachers in the hallway - of course, all at a safe distance and masked!

What is something you think should be preserved in public memory about this time?

The people we lost to the pandemic and the strength of those who survived.

What do you think we as a society should learn from this going forward?

I hope we all learned that we live as a community. We succeed or fail together.