Celebrating World Teachers’ Day at Framingham State University

Kate Callahan, M.Ed. International Teaching Program, Framingham State, May 2016

Teaches at: Colegio Americano de Guatemala (American School of Guatemala)

The American School of Guatemala is an independent, non-denominational, college preparatory institution that offers a rigorous academic program. It is founded on the principles of a co-educational, bi-cultural (Guatemala-United States), bilingual (Spanish-English) program. In addition to speaking Spanish and English, many students also speak third and fourth languages. Guatemalan students who attend Colegio Americano de Guatemala typically are from wealthy families. Other students may be children of foreign business executives or of ambassadors from all over the world. The school offers a kindergarten through high school program.

Subject Areas Taught: 10th Grade Biology

How did you decide to enter into teaching?

“In high school I always loved to help my teachers. I was a teacher’s aid my senior year and got to see some of the ‘behind the scenes’ of what teachers really do. After thinking it over during my first two years of college I knew teaching was what I wanted to do. Once I decided, I never turned back. After student teaching I knew for certain that the profession of teaching was for me.”

Favorite Memory Connected to Teaching:

One of my favorite memories from teaching happened at the end of the most recent school year. I decided to give end of the year awards to each student in my class. It took me a few weeks to come up with all the awards for each of my 5 classes. Not only did I enjoy the process of creating an award for each of them but handing them out was just as fun. In the last week of school I presented all the awards and my students were so proud and happy. Their reactions and applause were priceless.

World Teachers’ Day is an event promoted by UNESCO and partners throughout the world. It represents a significant effort to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation for the vital contribution that teachers make to education and development across the globe.