

Diversity Statement

We live in an increasingly diverse world and must be committed to fostering an atmosphere that is respectful and welcoming of various dispositions and ethnicities. All students will be provided with an equal opportunity to become actively engaged in content material, as a variety of learning options (including visual, oral, and hands-on teaching methods) will be utilized to involve less disposed learners. In addition, we all benefit from having a variety of backgrounds and experiences in the classroom. Thus, it is everyone's responsibility to encourage equality and collaboration.



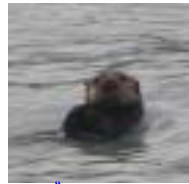
"Those who look for beauty, find it." – Unknown

Community Statement

Students learn best when they can both demonstrate learned knowledge and skills outside of the classroom and when they can see how their learning applies to the community they live in. Hence, student-community collaboration is essential to relevant and long-lasting learning.

More About Me . . .

In addition to being a dedicated teacher, I am a huge outdoor enthusiast and enjoy traveling. I am an avid birder, love hiking and camping, and have traveled and/or worked in some beautiful places such as New Zealand, Alaska, and the Fiji Islands. This was a great opportunity to explore my interest in wildlife and landscape photography. I also enjoy playing softball in my spare time.



"Adopt the pace of nature: her key is patience." - Emerson

Finally . . .

Teaching our youth requires dedication, enthusiasm, and close communication. I look forward to promoting a positive learning environment.

Contact Me!

I hope this brochure has provided you the opportunity to become better acquainted with me and my teaching goals and principles.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments or questions you may have. I look forward to hearing from you!

Email: jfollin@vt.edu
Phone: 540-333-3248

Jamie Follin



My nephew, Evan, and I

Science Educator

"The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards."

- Anatole France



I thoroughly enjoy working with students and am passionate about playing a vital role in facilitating student learning. I believe a successful education is extremely important, as it impacts who we become. I look forward to contributing in a positive way to the educational process of many young learners.

This brochure was created as a way for you to become better acquainted with me and my teaching goals and principles.

Resolutions

Pedagogy

Since student confidence is an essential ingredient for successfully addressing learning opportunities, I resolve to prompt student self-expression and self-reliance. Emphasis on peer instruction and student collaborations promotes inquiry skills, communicative competence, and self-confidence. I am dedicated to providing authentic, relevant, and applicable learning engagements.



“Nature knows no pause in progress or development.” - Goethe

Methodology

Because visual learning is a positive and valued technique for increasing student comprehension and reflection, I resolve to implement graphic organizers to prompt students’ constructions of knowledge. Graphic organizers allow students to recall, process, create, organize, and share pertinent information. Graphic organizers, such as scaffolding, diagrams, and mapping serve to support student explorations, discoveries, and applications. Concrete images of abstract concepts are essential to creating memorable learning engagements.

Learning

Learning is a matter of trust.

Students must believe that teachers believe in them.

Learning is implicit.

Learning is forever.

Prior knowledge is essential to future learning.

We learn best what makes sense to us.



Teaching

Emphasize student collaboration.

Collaboration prompts social learning.

Students must find learning enjoyable.

Positive learning dispositions are essential to student success.

Self-confidence prompts active learning.

Value student individuality.



Technology

Technology offers new dimensions for exploration.

Technology can provide unlimited learning resources.

Literacy Statement

Literacy is the most important component in preparing students to become lifelong learners who are active and independent readers, writers, and thinkers.

Philosophy:

Student literacy enhances content knowledge and promotes a deeper conceptual understanding.

Content:

Literacy not only encourages students to understand the true nature of science but it clarifies how science connects to other content areas, impacts individuals, and contributes to society.

Pedagogy:

Learning is an active experience and must be made relevant and authentic. Additionally, students should be given the opportunity to cooperate and collaborate with each other.

Management:

Students who are properly engaged in learning foster an environment which is safe, respectful, and responsive for all.

Diversity:

Diversity is ever-increasing in today’s student population and should be celebrated. Literacy engagements addressing various ethnicities and dispositions and gender facilitate student knowledge and understanding of diversity.

Assessment:

Teacher evaluation should include using a variety of methods such as assessing student-constructed journals, portfolios, projects, and presentations. Parents, other school personnel, and the community should be included so as to encourage students to share gained knowledge with others.