

Hello. My name is Maryellyn Friel. This is my 26th year teaching in the district. I am currently a CC resource teacher assigned to Heritage and Bartlett elem. I have worked at Heritage all 26 years in district.

Time, to me, is the most important of all our resources and it is the one that is hardest to understand. Yet to move forward WITHOUT an understanding of what you have right NOW will result in wasted time—a wasted opportunity.

In the last few years, what impresses me as changing the most are the additional responsibilities placed on the classroom & programs from implementing PBIS to RtI to numerous School Initiatives.

A few years ago, a teacher's day, after the kids left, usually meant a staff meeting, a parent phone call and time in your room preparing for the next day.

Now a teacher's day after the kids leave means time for a PBIS meeting to look at the data on school behavioral initiatives or plan incentives for students or contact a local business to find funding or input data from CICO sheets. If your school has been implementing PBIS for a while, it also means additional time for each level of PBIS--from the universal team to secondary team to tertiary team, all need meeting and planning time. After the students leave, it means time for a book room committee to meet to maintain and enhance our literacy resources. It means time to eat lunch because you spent your lunch tutoring a student or having RtI planning time with your team. It means time spent on a social committee building our relationships with each other--a critical component of collaboration. It means time for a new teacher meeting with the principal because there's so much to know. It means time to attend PTO business meetings and time to support PTO functions such as Family Movie Night. It means finding time to talk to your principal because their time is also too full during the school day. It means time to plan and get ready to take 6th grade students to camp—a memory they will never forget. It means time to meet as the School Improvement Plan team to discuss academic data and curricular needs. It means time to help get your school ready for ISAT testing from putting labels on tests to planning the ISAT prep rally to planning how to meet IEP and 504 Plans accommodations. It means time to meet to develop and refine a behavior plan so a student can access their education. It means time to participate in district committees.

I wanted to give just a snap shot of this work, since it is NOT captured in the data world we live in. So I asked my colleagues at Heritage how they spent their time after the kids left. Teachers, at Heritage, spent approximately 30 hours on the work described above during the month of February. This time did not include teachers' classroom preparations like grading papers and planning nor any contractual time. The teachers give of their time because it is good for kids and they care about their school.

I hope as we move forward looking at time and I believe we must. We do so with an understanding and appreciation of what we have so we can begin to understand and plan for what we need.

I thank you for your time.