

## Induction & Mentoring Newsletter May 2020

### Teacher Appreciation

This newsletter serves as a space to share best practices and events happening in your schools and school communities. Thanks to everyone who shared this school year. Want to contribute? Please email me at [agrile1@ilstu.edu](mailto:agrile1@ilstu.edu)



Have you logged your mentor match hours? If not please email me at [agrile1@ilstu.edu](mailto:agrile1@ilstu.edu)

The 2019-2020 school year has brought many ups and downs. It started with a stressful strike that divided Chicago citizens on your motives as teachers and ending with the same people serving as in-house teachers remote learning and changing into an abundance of love and respect for you as educators. I know times are hard and this will probably go down as your most difficult school year to date. Just know that if no one else has told you, you are appreciated! You have the toughest job and your work is essential to create future leaders in our global society. Thank you for doing the work, sticking to the work, and making sure that you look magical doing the work.

-Apryl

YOU ARE  
Appreciated

**What do you miss most right now?**

*"I want to be able to have the little moments that inspire us to keep going and keep teaching."*

**What do you miss most right now?**

*Seeing my students' smiling faces*

## Zoom, Zoom Everywhere!



We are now at month 3 of shelter in place and video meetings have become our everyday. Social distancing has resulted in us doing everything from the comfort of our homes, such as sitting in front of the computer screen. Between Google classroom, video chat and the infamous Zoom, we've learned to work and socialize via our internet. Our final mentor training, April 4<sup>th</sup>, and our final professional development session, May 16<sup>th</sup>, were both performed via Zoom. The hope and goal were to still provide the same quality of professional development, but in virtual form.



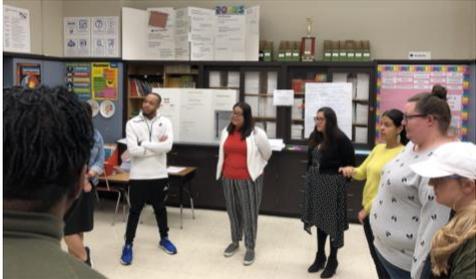
*Kristin Hovious stayed on with our I&M mentors and mentees to hear Dr. Crystal Laura share her thoughts on urban education on the other side of coronavirus.*

Dr. Crystal Laura presented "*Imagining Urban Teaching on the Other Side of Coronavirus.*" Based on her studies of pipeline to prison infrastructures and the disparities in urban education, Dr. Laura presented a social justice view of what remote learning with Chicago Public School students looks like and what educators can do moving forward with the remaining of the school year and into the 2020-2021 school year. One educator said, "Amazing insight, such kind and comforting words. It was a joy and pleasure to be part of the meeting. So many take aways!" Many educator participants enjoyed her presentation and information and had many take aways to use the following Monday with their students. Kristin Hovious, an I&M favorite, presented on Social-Emotional Learning but from an "Authoritative Mindset." Kristin flipped the notion of 'authority' into a positive space to allow grace and relationship mending/building between educators and their students during this remote learning time. Educators' eyes were opened. "I really enjoyed the different ways that we can help our students online and that we have to be aware that this is difficult for all of us," one educator stated.

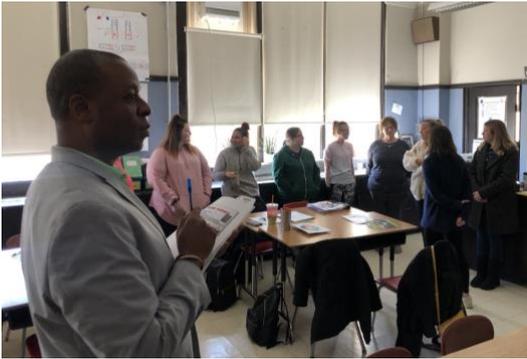
While we aren't able to meet physically, many educators were appreciative that we're able to still share knowledge and especially information that can be easily and quickly applied to the times we're in right now.

# PD in PC (Pre-COVID19)

In a time where social distancing, face protection and shelter in place weren't a thing, we held an in person professional development Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at one of our partner schools Saucedo Elementary Scholastic Academy.



Workshops included our CBO partners Ana Mosqueda (Little Village), Carlos Millan (Pilsen), and Gynger Garcia (East Garfield Park) with CTEP's program manager Sandra Payan Cantano; Walter Taylor of Chicago Teacher Union professional development department and Yolander Rivers of YoSoul Yoga.



# Teachers Run the World!

I asked Induction & Mentoring teachers ***what made them want to become a teacher in Chicago*** and what is one thing they missed about not being in the classroom right now. Here are their answers...

“My passion for urban education.”



*Kelsey Seegers*

“I luckily enrolled in one of ISU’s “urban tagged” classes that had a Chicago Observation Trip. On that trip, I saw some amazing teachers and was able to ask them questions about teaching in Chicago...Hearing their stories and what made them want to teach in Chicago really inspired me to do the same. I wanted to teach somewhere I felt I would be the most effective.”

“My roots are here in Chicago.”

“I became a teacher in Chicago to transform lives of young minds!”

“Plant the education seed that will flourish and always bring success into a child’s life.”

“I am from Chicago and attended CPS schools all the way through High School.”



*Emily Stoll*

“I became a teacher in Chicago because I wanted to connect with students and families in diverse communities. I wanted to educate young minds with, not only academic knowledge but, how to be positive global citizens in our world.”

“I had a summer job with my kindergarten teacher. She pushed me to go back to school and made me realize that I had the potential to be a good teacher.”

“Providing that ‘fun’ learning environment is my motivator to teach in Chicago, where students are limited to parents’ work schedule.”

“I am a product of CPS schools and I wanted to teach in the community that helped raised me.”

“I love the neighborhood feel and the union. I love the people I get to work alongside to breakdown social barriers and contribute to the neighborhoods.”

“When I decided that I wanted to be a teacher, I knew the only place I would ever want to teach is Chicago.”

“To make a difference in the lives of student with special needs.”

# Teachers Run the World!

I asked Induction & Mentoring teachers what made them want to become a teacher in Chicago and **what is one thing they missed about not being in the classroom right now**. Here are their answers...

“Getting to hug my students, knowing that they have such tough lives.”

“The time we get to spend in the classroom and their preschool hugs!!!”



Natalia Gomez

“I miss seeing students interact with each other during these (group-centered) activities.”

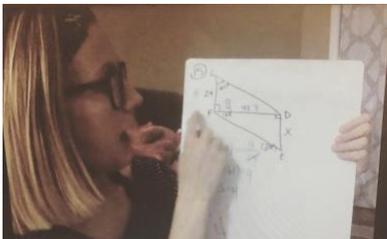
“...miss seeing the light bulbs go off and the progress being made daily.”

“...the simple things like high fives and hugs.”



Olga L. Quiroga

“The energy of the students.”



Alison Zajac



Jaritza Jaros

“I miss celebrating their collaboration when we would do our calendar and complete our daily journals.”

“Their energy and their smiles are what kept me motivated.”

“The face-to-face collaboration with colleagues.”

“I miss talking, joking, and dancing with my students during class.”



Guadalupe Hernandez

“Being there physically for them to guide them through the hard times, including life in general.”

“And making music with my students!!”



Daniel Jackson