

Student Teaching Practicum at Wachusett Regional High School

An Interactive Qualifying Project Submitted to the Faculty of
WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

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E-Portfolio: <https://sites.google.com/view/anthonytesoriero-tpp-wpi/>

Abstract:

In the fall semester of 2021, I joined Greg Chandonnet's technology and engineering classroom at Wachusett Regional High School (WRHS). This started my 14-week long student teaching journey in pursuit of obtaining my Massachusetts's Initial Teaching License for Technology/Engineering. What I initially thought would be a typical in-person student teaching experience quickly became an atypical one as the COVID19 epidemic forced schools to lockdown, and continue classes virtually. My student teaching experience became a collaborative problem-solving effort between myself and my mentor teacher, working together to develop and deliver the best virtual teaching methods of our ability. I got to use the skills I learned in the classroom and apply them in real life, constantly iterating on my techniques and pedagogy, refining my skills as a teacher. I followed the Massachusetts Department of Secondary Education's (DESE)'s Candidate Assessment of Performance (CAP) program which tracked my competency in the seven essential elements of CAP: Subject Matter Knowledge, Well-Structured Units and Lessons, Adjustments to Practice, Meeting Diverse Needs, Safe Learning Environment, High Expectations, Reflective Practice. In order to be deemed "ready to teach", I had to show at least proficiency in all seven elements by the end of the 14 week period. The e-portfolio linked below documents each step of my journey leading to my successful completion of DESE's CAP program

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Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank my supervising teacher Greg Chandonnet for graciously welcoming me into his classroom and sharing his years of experience and wisdom as a high school technology/engineering teacher. Thank you Terri Gerhardt for your guidance and input on the frontlines observing my virtual lessons as well as your effort in completing all the administrative work needed for my license. I would also like to thank Shari Weaver for her endless guidance and support throughout this journey to obtain my Initial Teaching License. Her endless passion brought to life an amazing program that has enabled many WPI students like me to become incredible teachers. This would not be possible without her endless work developing WPI's Teacher Preparation Program. Finally, I'd like to thank any and every teacher who inspired or helped me along the way. I truly wouldn't have had the passion to earn my teaching license if it wasn't for my teachers believing in me and my dreams. I hope that one day I can provide the same to my students.

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