



MARGARET M. DONLON

MY ALL- IN APPROACH TO TEACHING & LEARNING

My interpretation of the “all-in approach” is that I collaborate with school leadership, parents, colleagues and staff to do whatever it takes to prepare students for a successful transition into adulthood. In this framework, the teacher is committed to increasing students’ learning opportunities and assisting them to develop the knowledge, strategies, and dispositions they need to become life-long learners.

I regularly incorporate research-based, best practice in my planning and design of instruction. This is evident in my own classroom and the classrooms of colleagues I coach. I have had the distinct opportunity to develop a deep knowledge of how instruction should be tailored to meet individual student needs and also how to design instruction to assist students in becoming independent thinkers. I have also built remarkable personal and professional relationships with my colleagues at Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19, East High School and the Rochester City School District at-large. These relationships provide me the leverage needed to lead teachers through the work necessary of improving student achievement at all grade levels. I have an accomplished career at Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19 and at East High School as a teacher leader and instructional coach, but I am most proud of the meaningful relationships I have built with my students and colleagues.

MY COMMITMENT TO URBAN EDUCATION

I can contribute an unmatched amount of instructional knowledge in the areas of planning & preparation, classroom instruction, building meaningful relationships, and implementing highly effective school processes. I deeply believe the position of Instructional Coach makes a profound impact on the day-to-day lives of the students and teachers at Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19.

I can say with clarity and conviction the mission of my life is to be an effective urban educator and a leader, more specifically to be able to do this at Dr. Charles T. Lunsford School #19. I have fully devoted the last twenty years of my life to my students and my profession as a teacher. My students, their parents and my colleagues have taught me to appreciate the diverse opinions and stories of others, for which I am grateful. This allows me to continuously reflect on the things that help me better relate to and teach children. Getting to see many of my students graduate from high school after walking the journey with them, and then to see my students become dynamic members of the community - these are the most profound rewards of my career and it is my immeasurable honor to be a part of my students' lives.