
DO:

1. Try to incorporate STEAM into your classroom! I was so impressed by how much I learned about my students and their passions just by looking at their project topics. I was also forced outside my little bubble and into interacting with my colleagues outside the science department.
2. Plan. Decide what your expectations are then plan for what might not work. Anticipate the questions your students may have and the obstacles they might encounter.
3. Be honest with yourself about successes and areas for growth, and be open to feedback from colleagues and students.
4. Communicate. If you're collaborating with other teachers, it's important that you know what your expectations are for each other. Talk to colleagues in different departments or divisions if you're stumped searching for an idea. Also communicate with your students during the entire process. It's difficult to have sit down time with each student, but I've found that online check-ins helped to hold students accountable and kept me well informed.
5. Create something yourself! Embed yourself in the project. See what your students see and have fun doing it. This helps you anticipate issues that may arise, and it shows your students what is possible.

DON'T:

6. Don't expect perfection. You don't have to be an expert or have all the answers; some things will go wrong or not work as planned. That's life, and that's ok. Use those opportunities to help students learn about resilience and troubleshooting. Don't deprive your students of a great teachable moment by giving them every solution.
7. Don't forget to emphasize the connections to concepts. While this may sound like an obvious, Emma and I both recognize that we had a few cool projects this year that looked amazing, but left us clueless about if the students actually connected to specific concepts.
8. Don't forget to document. Keep active notes during your planning and execution about what's working, what's not and what's going on with your students. It also helps to have your students do this as well so that when a rubric is graded they can defend why the B- should be a B+ or whatever other issue may come up.
9. Don't be afraid to take risks and dream big.
10. Don't forget to keep calm. Patience is going to be a very good friend by the end of it all.