



Summer 2010

Watson School of Education

First Years of Teaching Newsletter

Welcome Back Beginning Teachers!



Hello and welcome back! My name is Somer Lewis, and I am the new Teacher-In-Residence at the Watson School of Education. Part of my job at UNCW is to support YOU, the beginning teachers in our partnership districts, through the First Years of Teaching Support Program! For the last seven years I have been a secondary English teacher at New Hanover High School in Wilmington, NC. I have also been a teacher for the North Carolina Virtual Public School for the last three years and have been a partnership teacher with UNCW for the last five. As stated, part of my job in the Watson School of Education is supporting beginning teachers, but I will also be coordinating the National Board Support Program, organizing the annual Mentor Con-

ference and working with secondary interns throughout the course of the year!

Now that you know a little about me, I'd like to tell you more about the support that the Watson School of Education can offer YOU as a beginning teacher! The First Years of Teaching Support Program has many components that I think you'll find very helpful. As a participant in our program you have the opportunity to work with an E-Mentor. This is a chance to collaborate with an experienced teacher in your subject area via email. You can make connections across county lines, ask questions, and share resources! Another component of FYT is our annual Beginning Teacher Conference. This is an opportunity to take part

in professional development offered by teachers, for teachers! Meet some of the most innovative, beginning teachers in our surrounding districts and see what they are doing in their classrooms! A third and final component of FYT is our online forum for beginning teachers and mentors. Set to go live in the fall of 2010, the online forum is a place to ask questions, review scholarly articles, get helpful tech tips, and access quick examples of best practices in teaching via video! If you have not yet joined FYT, you can sign up today! Visit www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1 and click the online registration form for beginning teachers!

I look forward to working with you, and have a great year!

~Somer Lewis
Teacher-In-Residence

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome Back	1
Save the Date	1
Don't Forget	2
Technology Tips	2
Beginning Teacher	2

Have you registered to be a part of the First Years of Teaching Support Program? Check us out on the web:

www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1

Save the Date!!!

Beginning Teacher Conference

**November 30th
February 17th
May 10th**

Online Forum available to BTs and Mentors!

New Fall 2010!

Stay in touch: www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1

Annual Mentor Conference, date to be announced

March 2011

Don't Forget! A Checklist for the 1st Week



Have you registered as a member of the First Years of Teaching Support Program?

***Go to:
www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1***

E-Mentors Available! UNCW is offering an additional layer of support for beginning teachers. E-mentors are available for all interested BTs. You will be paired with someone in your subject area who you can communicate with via e-mail. Ask questions about classroom management, content, and share resources! To sign up go to www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1.

So you have the keys to your classroom— now what? Here are some questions you might ask yourself in order to get ready for the first week!

Are your rules visibly posted in your classroom for students to see?

How will you review emergency procedures?

Have you established a procedure for students to leave the room? Do they need a pass? Do they sign out?

Where will you stand as students enter the room?

How will you get to know your students in the first few days?

Does your room have a place where you will recognize students accomplishments?

Are your desks situated so that students can work together, but not be distracted?

Do you know how to call for help if the need arises?

Have you met the nurse, the counselor, the secretary, the custodian? They are your friends!

Do you have a box of tissues? Extra pens and pencils? Paper?

Have you planned enough material? Over-planning is a good idea!

Do you have a daily agenda on the board for students to see?

Is your objective for the day clearly defined?

And finally, do you know what time your lunch is? Take a moment for yourself during the day! Get out of your classroom and meet your colleagues! Good luck!

Technology Tips 101

Are you feeling brave? Are you a BT 2 or 3 who is looking to change things up a bit this year? Here are some cool sites to help enhance your instruction!

Animoto.com automatically mixes your photos, video clips and music to create a free 30 second

slideshow! You can upload your own photos and music or choose from the collections already provided.

Glogster.com allows students to create interactive online posters, and now **edu.glogster.com** focuses solely on the needs of educators and includes

video clips and links to a database of lessons submitted by teachers, for teachers!

ToonDoo.com is a book character, and comic strip creator that allows students to choose from a library of clipart, backgrounds and props to create their own narratives!

Beginning Teacher Spotlight

This newsletter is created for YOU, the beginning teacher, with your needs in mind! With that said, I would love to be able to highlight your successes, lessons, and professional achievements. Don't be shy! Feel free to contact me and share your success. Have your classroom highlighted in our newsletter and share your strategies

with teachers outside the walls of your individual schools! I can be reached via email at lewiss@uncw.edu or by phone at 910-962-7669. I look forward to hearing from you!

~Somer Lewis
Teacher-In-Residence



**WSE Alumni
Chapter Fall Dinner
Meeting
Thursday,
September 30
5:30 p.m.
Wise Alumni House**

**Contact: Kim Gargiulo
910-962-2587**