

Miss Jyl, 5-8 Catholic School Teacher

I've been a teacher for 16 years and have seen so much change over my career. The inception of 1:1 computing, development of iPads and other tablets, and now there is an app for everything. While these tools have given teachers lots of options for how to teach and relay information - they have also offered humanity many temptations and ways to fulfill our need for validation and attention. It is a difficult tight wire to walk but there is so much good that can come from the walk!

As a longtime math teacher I have found many fun avenues leading students to discovery, many paths to discover. I have seen the light of revelation dawn on their faces - the sense of accomplishment when they get something. As teachers we try to build on those moments - string many together to reach new platforms. Now as a Science Teacher I am seeking opportunities to ignite creativity and that part of us that loves to build and create - to engage in the scientific process.

I work in a private catholic school - and I've weathered the storms of dwindling enrollment, and closing schools. It is hard to keep a positive outlook when things start to fall apart. In a good school the teachers and students take care of each other. They see when things are hard and they offer the smile and encouraging word. We share our successes and lift each other up when it seems too hard. On many days this job is a 10 - but when the bad days come it can be headed into negative territory!