



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: **Kelsee Anderson**

SCHOOL: **Opportunity**

Position: **Math Teacher**

YEARS IN DISTRICT: **4 years**

Q. How does the Opportunity Program operate?

A. We cater to students who need a flexible schedule or are a fifth or six year senior. We also work with students who are credit deficient. Students work independently so they are not in a classroom of 30 students with one teacher. They are in a classroom setting, but working independently. They meet with their teachers once a week so it is much different than you would see in a traditional classroom.

Q. What is your role in the Opportunity Program?

A. I am a math teacher. I coordinate the entire math program. I assess students, create learning plans and check their weekly progress to make sure they are doing what is needed to be successful.

Q. How do you work with students who are significantly skill deficient?

A. I always start with the basics. I have students come to me who are 16 or 17 but they don't have the skills to be successful in algebra. For them I start with pre-algebra. I ensure they can add, subtract, multiply and divide to help develop strong number sense. This is critical for basic algebra. Our work is standards-based and aligned with the state and Common Core so the students develop the skills they will need to pass the assessments. It is one step at a time until they have the skills they need to pass the tests and earn credits.

Q. Why is it important to have an option like Opportunity Program in our district?

A. School doesn't need to be one-size fits all for our students. For a lot of students it works to be in a classroom of 30 students and one teacher and they function at a high level. But, for many kids it is not the right place for them. We know kids learn differently and Opportunity Program is another option for the kids in the Walla Walla valley.

Over 

**MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
KELSEE ANDERSON:**

The district office has been great for the past two years and I love being here and seeing all the behind the scenes work it takes to run a school district.



COMMENTS FROM KELSEE:

It has also been good for our kids to see it is not just teachers who make a great educational system. The district office staff enjoyed seeing the kids daily and I think it made their jobs more meaningful too.

It will be nice to have a bigger space at the new location. We will have room to grow the program and meet the needs of these students.



I graduated from Wa-Hi and received my degree from Seattle Pacific University. My husband is an artist and also involved in the wine industry and the Walla Walla Foundry. We have an 18-month-old son named Jackson.