



Saul Martinez

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Saul Martinez

SCHOOL: Pioneer Middle School

Position: Art Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 2 years

Q. What are your students working on in art class?

A. I am teaching them how to make sculptures. They begin with a general sketch. I then teach them technique and the proper principles of building. I require them to see the project all the way through to completion. This project requires a lot of problem solving skills. They know I am not going to let them give up on the project. All students will complete their projects successfully.

Q. Why is it important to develop art skills?

A. Art requires the student to exercise a different hemisphere in the brain. My students learn creative problem solving and critical thinking skills in art class. They are able to apply these skills to the other subjects they are learning.

Q. What happens when you find a truly gifted art student?

A. I help them research different options to maximize their art talents. This may be in the traditional world of art or in a field outside of the arts which incorporates their artistic talents and problem solving skills. I continue to challenge them to develop their natural talents.

Q. How do you collaborate with the other art teachers in the district?

A. I have a strong connection with Carnegie Picture Lab and the high school art teachers. I like to find out what they are doing and what they expect of my students when they enter high school classes.

It is important to have a good understanding of the vocabulary and technical skills they are using at the high school so it will be a smooth transition.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM SAUL'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM SAUL.

Walla Walla has an excellent support system for the arts. Lately I have been collaborating with local artist Juventino Aranda to chat art. We share sketches, discuss where our art can go and push each other to continue making art.

This is my second year at Pioneer. I taught a Selah Junior High before moving to Walla Walla. I also taught at the Spokane Art School.



I graduated from Eastern Washington University. I love to run and enjoy Cross Fit. I went to school to be an artist and I am living out my dream. I am currently building my own art studio.