



Sue Schulz

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Sue Schulz

SCHOOL: Garrison Middle School

Position: Science Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 17 years

Q. What skills are students in your 8th Grade Advanced Science class learning?

A. We just completed our unit on space. We looked beyond earth to the planets, stars, sun and moons. We studied the distances and relative sizes and then compared those objects to one another. We also looked at conditions on these planets and learned if they were hospitable for life.

Q. How did your experience at NASA Space Camp impact your teaching?

A. The NASA Space Camp challenged us to work as a group. We learned team building skills and how to apply them to problem solving. In class, I often present a situation to the students which require them to work together as a team. Students develop strategies and problem solve so they are able to design a solution. The goal is to establish a conclusion and ideas.

Q. How are students selected for placement in the Advanced Science class?

A. Many of the students in this class are from the Explorer program. The few Explorer students who are not in this class had scheduling conflicts.

Other students are recommended for this class because of their high interest in science and strong test scores. This class challenges students to move at a quicker pace and have a higher intellectual level to keep up with the discussions and reading requirements.

Q. How do skills from other content areas support your science class?

A. It can be difficult for students at this age to transfer information in language arts and math, but science is the perfect subject for these skills. We are writing and using math. We use Investigations and formally write the labs. This allows the students to communicate their results in a conclusion.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
SUE'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM SUE.

All of these students will most likely go into advanced science in high school. These students will probably choose to be in many advanced placement classes because they have demonstrated they have the skills to be successful. They are really great kids.

I grew up in Yakima and went to Eisenhower High School. I attended Seattle Pacific University. I met my husband my senior year at SPU. We married and moved to Wyoming.



My husband Eric is a math professor at Walla Walla Community College and we have lived here for more than 20 years. My son Chris lives in Seattle and my daughter Anne is a math teacher at Pioneer Middle School.