



Brian Taylor

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Brian Taylor

SCHOOL: Lincoln Alternative H. S.

Position: Resource Room Teacher

Years in District: 11 years

Q. What is a resource room and how does it differ from other classrooms?

A. Every student in this class is in the special education program and has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). At Lincoln, the resource room is a place where each student can work on individual needs.

We often work on materials from their regular education classes. We also focus a lot of attention on math and reading. Some students work on their life skills, independent living studies or career options.

Q. Why is it important to have small class sizes for this program?

A. It's important for me to build strong relationships with my students. Their needs are often vastly different, so it's crucial I have time to spend with them for one-on-one instruction. Many of my students also have mental health issues, which can lead to anxiety and difficulties working in large group settings.

Q. How does Lincoln's culture support you as a teacher?

A. We have worked hard to make Lincoln a place where students want to be and feel like a family. The students take pride in their school and they respect their teachers. I will often see former students downtown and they'll come up to me and tell me what they are doing and how I helped them in school. It's awesome knowing you made a difference in their lives.

Q. Why does your facility come up short?

A. This building was built in the 1920s and it has serious issues. I had a student who could not attend here because we didn't have an elevator. The students love this school, but I know they would be better served in a modern facility. The building certainly doesn't have adequate technology and equipment for today's needs.

Over

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
BRIAN TAYLOR'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM BRIAN...

Lincoln is a student-centered school. We put the students first and do what it takes to meet their specific needs. It's working. The students tell the staff how much they are appreciated and the staff shows the same affection.

This classroom gives the students a place to work on the areas where they need extra help. We have a team of people reviewing their IEPs and making adjustments as needed.



My students are working hard and developing skills that will help them after their school years. Many will go into the work place right out of high school, so we are helping prepare them.