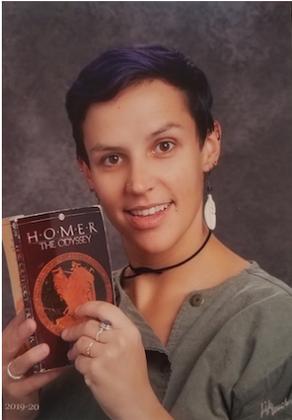


## Spartan Spotlight: Ms. Cynthia Dick (“Ms. D”), ELA Teacher



Student fan-favorite Ms. D has been an English and Language Arts (ELA) teacher at Sedgefield Middle since December 2012 – the same year, in fact, she became a teacher and moved to Charlotte. She currently teaches sixth grade and serves on the school’s AVID site team, the School Leadership Team and the Faculty Advisory Committee. She’s also the proud coach of one of our 2019-20 inaugural Odyssey of the Mind teams. Prior to teaching at Sedgefield, Ms. D was a technical writer for a public relations firm in Cary, NC.

“I moved from public relations to education because I felt my work was not making a difference, and it was very important for me to feel like I was making a contribution to my community,” she said. “I truly consider it a huge privilege to be an educator. Some days I have so much fun at my job I can’t believe I’m being paid to do it. Some days are so tough I go to bed at 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. Every single day is a privilege, and I am grateful for the opportunity to influence and be influenced by these amazing young people.”

Ms. D grew up just outside the town of Badin, NC. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English, with a concentration in rhetoric and composition, from Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, NC. She also holds a master’s of education in literacy from Queens University of Charlotte.

Outside of school, Ms. D is a self-professed outdoor girl. She enjoys running, hiking, camping, and backpacking. Because there’s no one better to offer recommendations than an ELA teacher, Ms. D said the book that has stuck with her and still brings her joy is "The Giver." She also habitually re-reads "Ceremony" by Leslie Marmon Silko. “It is a beautifully woven-together story that digs deep into the heart and burrows itself there. When and if you read it, it will haunt you for a while,” she said.

