

Student Teaching Grant Recipient Expresses Gratitude

Members of the Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation

I am writing to express my gratefulness for receiving this grant. Because of this gracious award, I was able to take time away from my weekend job throughout the last school year so I could ensure I was giving my all to my student teaching experience. Instead of needing to worry about how I was going to work to afford to pay bills or buy lunch each week, I was able to use the funds awarded to me via your gracious grant opportunity to pay for my necessities. This allowed me to treat my student teaching experience like a full-time job the correct way...without further distractions. For that, I would like to extend a very gracious thank you.

This was a heck of a year to complete student teaching, that's for sure. Regardless of complications created by COVID-19, I am eternally appreciative for the time I had to grow as an educator through my student teaching experience. I actually had the opportunity to complete mine at my high school alma mater, Jackson Center Local Schools. Truth be told, it was a little weird at first, as my brain had a difficult time switching from the perspective of the student at the school to a professional. Once I became accustomed to my new role in the school, business truly picked up. It was an amazing experience being able to work with some of my own former teachers in this capacity and to learn and grow by picking their educational brains of expertise.

Fortunately, in my case, my school district was incredibly fortunate when it came to being affected by COVID-19. Because of its small, rural status, positive coronavirus cases were not as frequent or common as some of the larger districts near us. Of course, there was the occasional positive test result, so every now and then, we would have a few students quarantined at home and joining us via Google Meets. I truly feel like this school year has helped me become better prepared for the flexibility that is always required in the classroom. In addition, I feel more prepared to integrate technology into the classroom because of the sheer precedence it has played in both my student teaching and college experience because of the pandemic.

I would like to thank you once again for your passion for education and contributing to this Foundation to ensure that education prospects like myself can have the best experience possible. I hope you will continue to donate to the Foundation so student teachers like myself can have the same types of experiences I thankfully received.

Respectfully,
Dalton Faulder

Update: I was hired by Columbus City Schools, to teach eighth grade ELA at Arts Impact Middle School! I am super excited to begin this new chapter of life!

