

Caitlin Quarrington

Peter

C = I also like to "know the right answer", and was good at finding the correct solution in Math when going through school.

E = Building on this connection - I wonder whether this is starting to shift in the K-12 Math space today. I've seen increasing openness in education for multiple correct paths to arrive at a solution, and I wonder if in facing real-world, interdisciplinary problems, how many versions of "correct" there may be. Have you explored how teachers can assess students most effectively with this grey area of many "right answers"?

Ted

C = I'm also poor at applications of math, like physics, and I'm drawn to language - I'm envious that you were able to devote your studies to humanities and linguistics! (I stayed in a Science track)

E = What skills, approaches, or mindsets do you think are shared between humanities and mathematics? What common ground have you found between these disciplines?

John

C = Like you, I appreciate the ability to be flexible and change directions, career-wise! I'm also contemplating shifts (and have shifted before).

E = What do you think you possess that makes you perhaps "better at math" than your peers in the liberal arts? Are there certain skills or ways of approaching problem solving that you think are natural for you - or that you've worked to foster?

Brad

C = You have the job that I thought I wanted, during my undergrad! I did a practicum (when I was earning my B.Ed) for high school biology - it's my favourite subject - I ended up landing a job in middle school, but high school bio would have been my top pick.

E = Will you be adopting NGSS in your teaching environment? (I'm assuming you're in the States.) I find it interesting that NGSS explicitly states the common core connections to Math for every outcome - do you think that NGSS creates new connections between bio and math, or just reinforces whatever natural ties there might be? In what ways do you (or will you/could you) bring the SEP of Mathematical and Computational Thinking into your teaching practice?

Ali

C = Hello from bioethics! (You're the only person I "know" here - just my 2nd SICW course). We also have an overlapping interest in science education & engagement for kids.

E = What kinds of interdisciplinary project-based learning experiences have you tried in your teaching practice? I find elementary teachers are typically more open to doing STEM-based activities; what have you found effective in supporting students in making connections and shifting from a "pure science" view towards STEM or even STEAM?

Andrew

C = I also work at an educational non-profit! I also do program management, curriculum development, and professional development for teachers. Mine is also a small organization! I ALSO did a semester towards becoming a physical therapist! You basically told my life story. We should definitely connect more - would love to chat more about your experiences and see how we can support each other.

E = Do you plan to scale up your work - and if so, how? Have you done any collaborations with educators from other countries?

Nadjia

C = I'm also new to the SICW program (this is my second course - I did a quick summer one first). My brother also worked teaching in an orphanage in Hohoe, Ghana - I really admire the tenacity and openness that that takes!

E = How did you cultivate trust in the communities that you worked in? Understanding that teaching and learning (or really, any dialogue) is most effective when there is an established relationship and a sense

of trust - did you have specific strategies for bridging that gap and the differences between you and the diverse groups you have worked with?

Erik

C = I agree that there's a perceived divide between mathematical thinking and creative thinking. I'm hopeful that as we start to break down barriers between disciplines and approach the "wicked problems" (aka interdisciplinary problems) of the world, that there will be space for a merging of mathematical and creative thinking (as well as other ways of categorizing thinking).

E = Is there one common thread or theme that you think could connect ALL your work - from academic interests to stand-up to ...etc.?