

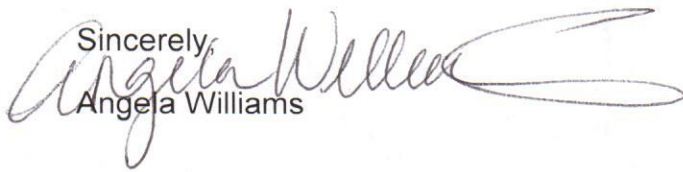
I view my everyday interactions at school like my family life. I have grown so many close relationships just by warm and friendly smiles greeting you daily as you arrive to work every day. I have truly grown as an educator being a teacher here at Weiss. I love Weiss we have high expectations for our students and stakeholder's. We do not settle with mediocre, we never give up, set goals, and ignore distractions. The knowledge and skills I have gained have equipped me with lifelong tools to be the successful educator I strive to be on a daily basis. Martin Weiss will definitely prepare anyone to bring education into the 21st century.

I have been introduced to so many different professional development opportunities. Being Introduced to Project Based Learning has given me a viewpoint, I never would have imagined. PBL brings real-life context and technology to the curriculum in a fun and engaging manner. Students gain so much by participating, and it really helps them grow as leaders. PBL requires students to think outside of the box critically, work independently, and keeps them wanting more. The one to one technology also aids students in becoming well versed. PBL is not just a way of learning; it's a way of working together. PBL truly holds students accountable for their own learning, and in return builds into the future citizens we need. PBL requires students to take responsibility for their own learning. Students form the basis for the way they will work with others as they grow into adults. I found that students reacted very positively to PBL. In implementing PBL, my role as the teacher/instructor really shifted in that I was able to become a facilitator, rather than an answer giver.

The Leader in Me was another great PD, which has been instrumental on our campus. Through this program we have been able to teach our students 21<sup>st</sup> century leadership and life skills to create a culture of student empowerment based on the realization that EVERY CHILD CAN BE A LEADER. This program has been great for the faculty and staff as well. Just as it helps the students become self-reliant, manage their emotions, set and track goals, prioritize their time, and increase their interpersonal skills, it also aids in the adults sharpening their skills as well.

I choose to work at Weiss because I feel supported, I'm given many opportunities to learn and grow, and lastly because I support the mission and vision of the campus. I'm exciting in direction we are moving to continue being innovative campus in Oak Cliff serving the community. I'll tell anyone Martin Weiss is an awesome place to work, and an even better place to grow as an educator. Above all everyone is always willing to go the extra mile for the students but also for one another. The professional training sought out by administration is always exciting but more important useful to the main goal of raising student achievement. I am truly blessed to have found Martin Weiss, I can't imagine working anywhere else.

As my third year comes to an end, I am truly grateful for the experiences I have had and the opportunities I have been afforded. Growing professionally in the field of education has been life changing for me. From my experiences at Weiss, I started on my Master's in Education to further my advancement in the field. I will finish in December of this year. I have received so much on the job training, I can honestly say when I cross the stage it will be credited to the long hours I put into my school work but more than anything the experiences gained from Weiss and the leadership opportunities have given me more than you can imagine.

Sincerely,  
  
Angela Williams