



Matt Yale with middle school students at the 6th Grade Camp Allen field trip

Matt Yale

5th and 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher

Teaching was not Matt's first career, but it is by far his favorite and what he feels he is meant to do. Matt first went into law and, after a few years as a paralegal, moved to commercial real estate. Neither felt quite right. He was having lunch with his aunt one day and she mentioned teaching. "It was one of those moments that a light bulb went off. I had never considered it but it made so much sense." Shortly after, Matt started looking into getting his teaching license.

His first experience teaching was student teaching at Pershing Middle School and by January of 2017, he had his first job teaching at Hamilton Middle School in the Heights. Matt taught there for a couple years before coming back to Pershing during COVID. When HISD went back to full in-person learning in August of 2021, they ran into budget issues and started to send teachers to other schools within the district. Matt got sent to Clifton Middle School. This took him far from where he lives and where his kids go to school. Matt knew that he needed a change but wanted to keep teaching. That summer he got a call from Mrs. Taylor that St. Mark's wanted to interview him for a long-term sub position. After interviewing and touring the school Matt knew St. Mark's would be a great fit. He was a long-term sub for the 22-23 school year and then St. Mark's hired Matt to become the new 5th and 6th grade history teacher. Even though Matt was initially happy at Pershing before being moved to other campuses, it was the best thing that happened to him because it led him to St. Mark's.

Matt says, "My favorite part about teaching at St. Mark's is the community of teachers and students. The teachers are incredibly friendly and eager to help." He had to rely so much on other teachers when he started as a long-term sub and everyone was willing to help. "The students are an absolute delight to teach," Matt adds. "They come to class eager to learn and I enjoy finding creative ways to engage them in the classroom."



Matt Yale with middle school at Houston Food Bank

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