

CELEBRATING WORLD TEACHERS' DAY AT FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY

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TEACHES AT: Pan-American School in San Antonio de Belen, Costa Rica

Pan American School is a small international private school enrolling between 400-500 students from preschool to 12th grade. It is a bilingual school with half of the courses taught in English and the other half taught in Spanish. Most teachers are either fully bilingual or are working to become fully bilingual. Pan-American School has 27 different countries represented on campus. Between half and two-thirds of the students are Costa Rican, with the rest drawn primarily from other South or Central American countries. Most students have Spanish as their first language. There are a few students from the United States or Europe who have a first language as either English or a Germanic based language. Most students are from a higher socio-economic status, but there are many students who are on scholarship which brings economic diversity to the school. Pan American School has the advantage of providing its students with the opportunity to participate in events at other schools in Central America through the Association of American Schools in Central America partnership, as well as other events in North or South America.

SUBJECT AREAS TAUGHT: 10th Grade World History, 11th Grade IB History, Middle School Brass Classes (trumpet and trombone), Model United Nations Program.

MEMORABLE TEACHING MOMENT:



I serve as the Model UN Coordinator at our school, as such we run a conference each year. Last year we had 350 students participate. The conference is student run with students serving as secretary generals, chairs, and staff. They do the vast majority of the preparation work with my guidance, something that takes almost the entire year to prepare for. Probably my favorite memory connected to teaching has to do with seeing the overt joy and excitement on the students' faces as they completed a very successful conference during my first year running the show. It was a rowdy group of students who were acting like they had just won a championship. They just had so much pride in their own hard work.



World Teachers' Day is an event promoted by UNESCO and partners throughout the world. It represents a significant effort to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation for the vital contribution that teachers make to education and development across the globe.



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