

Curriculum Connection

Secondary: Middle School & High School

Important Dates

NWEA	8/
Bundle 1	8/
	8
	8

September 4, 2020

Encouragement for Educators

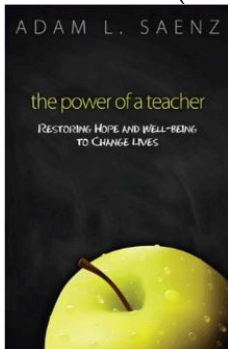
In the midst of new instructional strategies and delivery methods, East Allen County Schools' educators still strive to ensure students are receiving an equitable and rigorous curriculum. After many hours, late nights and a strong dedication to education, classroom teachers, counselors and administrators might benefit from an extremely encouraging testimony of how two English teachers changed a young man's life drastically. May this true story of Dr. Saenz encourage our corporations' educators with a compelling reminder of why they entered the field of education.

Adam Saenz shares his inspiring and true story of how educators were the light unto his path, years after he graduated high school, in his powerful book: *The Power of a Teacher*. Dr. Saenz thrived in school until his parents divorced, and his dad left their family when he was in the third grade. By sixth grade, two of his best friends were shot by gang members. Furthermore, he was dealing drugs, forced to watch an assault and arrested for possession of drugs, all within that same year. Although he was sent to live with family friends and graduated high school without any more legal trouble, his "adoptive" parents wiped their hands clean of him after he graduated high school. Many years later, desolate and homeless, he found letters two high school English teachers had written him. Both teachers praised him for his writing talents, which motivated Dr. Saenz to pursue post-secondary education.

After receiving his Baccalaureate degree, opportunities were endless for Dr. Saenz; he had requests from multiple Ivy League schools to attend their doctorate programs. Years after counseling patients, he decided to substitute teach because he wanted to make a difference in students' lives. He soon realized the best psychological practices were unsuccessful in the classroom. Instead of running from education, he dove into the realm of blending his professional practice and educational pedagogies to help students succeed in the classroom. His personal testimony epitomizes how teachers impact students for the duration of their lives. (Saenz, *The Power of a Teacher*, 2012).

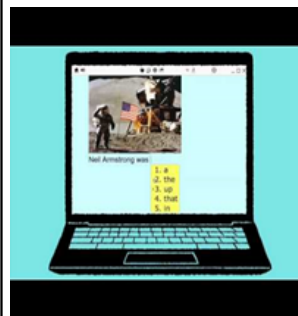
May you be encouraged by surrounding yourself with positive and motivating truths of why educators are essential in society. If you are interested in reading the book referenced above, the information is provided.

Saenz, A. (2012, April 20). *The Power of a Teacher*. Intermedia Publishing Group, Inc.



EL Corner

Co:Writer Universal (App) AMAZING!!



As a student types in English, their native language, or both, CoWriter predicts what they are writing by listing translation/spelling/ word choices. These can be clicked and heard, or even defined, in English and native language. If a student types "Ay Li gatos," choices appear such as "Alligators" and "I like cats" (since gatos is Spanish for cats).

The student can hear their corrected sentence in English as well as in their native language, to ensure it's what they meant to say! Language options are the same as those in Google Translate (ie. Burmese but not Karen). **NOTE:** this is a great tool for ALL Students (even those not literate in any language) due to the read aloud options! See your Tech Coach to have it downloaded onto both your iPad and your student's iPads – and it's free!

What's New in EDGE? (EACS High Ability Education)

"I am neither especially clever nor especially gifted. I am only very, very curious." — *-Albert Einstein*

Staci [Salzbrenner](#), is our district's new High Ability Coordinator. She will be working with staff to continue the growth of our EDGE program and is looking forward to implementing exciting curriculum with the Edge students beginning in October.

Please feel free to contact her at ssalzbrenner@eacs.k12.in.us or 446-0100 x3155 with any questions or needs that you may have!

Questions or Concerns about the Bundles?

Please make sure you fill out a bundle feedback form located on the district shared drive.