

## Unnecessary Teacher Shortage

It is no secret that schools throughout the nation are facing a shortage of teachers. This is not a good thing, for teachers impact the lives of their students greatly, affecting how their students live out their most important years as children. One way to solve this problem is to begin encouraging students to become teachers at a young age. Encouragement can come from literally telling students the importance of becoming a teacher, or showing the students how amazing it can be through their actions and attitude throughout the day. Being a good teacher is so important when the nation needs more teachers, and there are many skills that make these high-quality teachers.

One of the best ways to recruit students to become teachers is to instill the importance of this job in them from a young age. Growing up, when one thinks of being a teacher they think of coming to school every day and having to work just as hard as the students. This can seem draining and very hard, which discourages students from wanting to become a teacher. While working just as hard (or harder) as the students is something they do have to do, it is not a bad thing like most students assume. Teachers need time to plan their lessons, but they teach more important lessons than just what the quadratic equation is or how to analyze a poem. They teach kids how to share, how to love their peers and treat them with respect, and how to interact in life. These are very important life skills, which are sometimes not instilled in the student at home.

Another way to recruit and encourage students to become teachers is to hire teachers that are highly skilled. I have had a few very good teachers throughout all my years of school, and many average ones. The good teachers I have had are patient, kind, and forgiving. An example of what made my history teacher, Mrs. Hobbs, one of the best teachers I have ever had, was just the style of her teaching. She would let us write down the notes from her powerpoint, and after we had

finished she would explain everything to us. I personally wish that every teacher would do this, for it really helps everyone learn. It enables one to focus on writing down notes and try to listen to the teacher talk. I also had another favorite teacher, Mrs. Cambers, who taught me algebra one and algebra two. I do not like math, as many students do not, but she made it easy for me. She did not make the homework easy, or even the tests, but she taught me so well and answered every question with patience and kindness. This style of teaching would encourage anyone to become a teacher, just so they would be like her and impact students' lives the way that she does. These teachers, while not similar in personality, both impacted my life for the better by just teaching the way that all teachers should. What I learned from Mrs. Cambers is still encouraging me today to try my best in math, and to try to get better grades every time I take a test. If I were to be completely honest, without her I would not be doing as well in the class as I am now. All these things just stress how important it is to hire good teachers who are not only skilled in their area of teaching, but in how to best connect with their students as well.