

APPENDIX 6
Teacher's Day and Time Management

Your Name Jill Gearhart Date 2/25/2008

Cooperating Teacher _____

Observe the demand made on a teacher's time throughout a typical teaching day. Record how many minutes are spent on each of the following activities during the time you were in the classroom. (You may need to interview your teacher to get estimates of time for any activities that take place during the school day that you have not witnessed.)

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Minutes per Day</u>
Teaching to a whole class	100 – 120 min/day (including discussion)
Teaching to small groups	10 – 30 min/day (rarely, though)
Teaching/ assisting individual students	30 min/day
Organization activities (such as: taking attendance each period, passing back papers, arranging for make-up/absentee work, getting students ready to go to lunch,, etc.)	15-20 min/day
Overseeing study halls, cafeteria duty, bus duty	0 min/day
Planning/Preparation time	90-120 min/day
Lunch	30 min/day (works during lunch)
Meetings and/or Parent or Student Conferences	30/WEEK (including e-mails)
Other: Student/Peer Personal Interaction	30-35 min/day
Total time spent in school on a typical day	8.5 hours/day
(Total time spent in classroom during this observation)	roughly 4 hours

(cont'd)

APPENDIX 6 (cont'd)
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React and respond to the following statements:

“Sometimes a teacher doesn't have time to teach.”

I'm not really sure how whoever said this defines “teaching”, but in my opinion, everything a teacher does, save for clerical work, is teaching in some way. I agree that it might seem like they don't have time to get their entire lesson done, but I think that regardless of if a lesson is completed or not, teachers end up teaching in SOME way. Granted, days like PSSA testing days or school assemblies might throw the timing and completion of the lesson off, but on a regular school day, I would disagree with this statement.

“A teacher has time to give each student the individual attention he/she needs.”

A teacher *should* give *some* individual attention, but this is a hard thing to do. If the whole class is spent just teaching to one specific student and then another, I feel that while that student may come away with a great learning experience, the other students not attended to will suffer. That is not to say I think individual assistance is not needed, quite the opposite. I believe, though, that it's important to balance individual attention with a student-centered class instruction as well to make sure all children at least have an *opportunity* to learn.

“In a classroom, a teacher has to do one thing at a time.”

I think this statement is somewhat absurd. Teaching is a career where you do more multitasking than in many other jobs. For example, teachers have two roles they have to play: the worker and the teacher. The worker has to take roll, collect homework, deal with bathroom passes, late passes, and a myriad of other clerical things. The teacher has to teach the content, tune into students' reactions for feedback, and adjust the delivery of the content accordingly—all while exercising classroom management. Clearly it is impossible to do just one thing at a time when teaching.