

Excellence is Everywhere

Walking into Mrs. Gibbons' science classroom is like visiting the next generation of mathematicians and engineers. Katie is designing units around (STEM) science technology engineering and math that have students develop models, conduct investigations which includes planning and developing, making observations and measurements so they can gather the data, draw conclusions and explain their phenomenon. To accomplish success with each unit Katie uses a variety of interactive websites as well as hands on opportunities to test and explore various hypotheses. Students investigate and apply their science knowledge by completing hands-on activities and answer rigorous discussion questions.

By building relationships with students, Mrs. Gibbons believes that building relationships with students is an important key for removing barriers to learning. Katie takes the time to learn about each student's strengths and what motivates them to learn. She believes that students will progress academically if the teacher has built the relationship with the student. By building these positive relationships, Katie also sees improvement with attendance. Students enjoy science. You can hear students say, "I cannot wait to see what experiment we are doing today!" or "We need to try this to improve our results!" From the engagement within the class and anticipation to learn science concepts, Katie is instilling future engineers and scientists. She also has girls believing in their abilities by moving away from the old stereotypes that science is for boys. By sharing career opportunities that both boys and girls can excel puts meaning behind the science content.

