

Abby Ridgeway

Periods 4/5

May 14, 2018

Assignment #1: Selfie photos and description of first day



*Middle:* Principal Grace Ridgeway

*Right:* Lead Teacher Tenzin Pelling

At the desk working on the yearbook

First Day

I am currently interning Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at Whittier school located on Clairemont Drive. Whittier is a k-12 special ed school that provides education to disabled children. The school is adapted to meet each students specific needs, learning disabilities, and/or behavioral challenges. I will mainly be working under the principle, but I am also job shadowing most positions currently in place at the school. I will frequently be managing office work, answering calls, working with, and monitoring students. Additionally, I am going to be working with two senior boys to

help organize their senior graduation and I will also be designing the 2017-18 school yearbook for all the students.

My first day was very hectic and interesting. I knew what I had signed up for, but I didn't know how closely I would be working with the students. In the morning I observed the bus and student drop off, and as I was instructed to keep the gate closed, a student escalated when I didn't allow him to open it. Later in the day, this same student was in the office next to mine and began behaving aggressively towards the principal and other teachers. After I was in the office working on the yearbook templates, the principal showed me towards the elementary playground where she introduced me to the students. I was instructed to keep an eye on one of the students and observed how the children played with each other. After that, I went to the front office to job shadow and learn how to answer calls. After answering a large amount of calls, I went to observe lunch duty where I sat with and helped a student cut up his lunch. Not much later, another student came behind me and gave me a hug. To my surprise, the teacher came up to me and told me to beware of him because he seems to like me and that he tends to bite.

At the end of the day, I realized that this school has such dedicated teachers that want to help these kids each and everyday. Although it is constantly busy and crazy hectic, I see why the teachers have a passion to do what they do. I was very tired at the end of the day, but I can't wait to come back tomorrow and be apart of such an amazing, yet fast paced organization for the next four weeks.