

Nicole Certesio  
Delaware Military Academy  
Grade 9

Robert Naylor  
Science  
Conrad Schools of Science  
Redclay

“Can we take it from the top of Scene Three, and try to use more emotion when you’re explaining what happened.” These were common words out of my seventh grade science teacher, who was also my school play director. He was that teacher I will never forget and he has made a huge impact on my life; his name was Mr. Naylor. He was a teacher who everyone loved, and he taught the one class that you always looked forward to. He made my middle school years amazing by making class fun, and being an awesome coach.

Mr. Naylor always made class enjoyable even if you were in the worst mood or not feeling well. He always had the best lessons planned, and they were always fun. Almost every class we did hands on activities and learned a lot. I still remember some of them, like when we were talking about density and what floats and sink, so we put vegetable oil and water in a water bottle to see if they mixed. Mr. Naylor always had new jokes, and they were the funniest. He also had a story for everything we learned, whether it was from a previous year or when he was growing up.

Mr. Naylor wasn’t just my teacher but my “coach”. He directed our school play, and he helped me get over my stage fright. I am now on my school’s dance team which performs in front of many people. He made me realize that I can do anything I put my mind to. I realized this when I learned the dance parts for the play with a cast on and was still able to do them like the other girls. He supported me and told me to always strive to excel both in the play and class.

Very few people have made an impact on my life, but he was one. He was my coach, really funny, and most importantly an amazing teacher. I hope Mr. Naylor, continues to make an impact on people’s lives and make a real difference.

Amanda Andruzzi  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Delaware Military Academy

April 18, 2013

Great Teaching Essay Contest

The American Dream gives citizens the chance to live their lives to the fullest and to achieve all the goals they have for themselves. In schools these days, teachers strive to give students the American Dream and help them live their lives the most they can. This school year, I believe Ms. Kackley gives students the American Dream. Ms. Kackley help students learn to their potential. In class, we do fun and interesting activities to help get our minds moving and understand the material in a better and more sufficient way. By doing this task, she is helping to prepare students for their lives in the future. Also, teachers in schools are trying to prepare the students for the world and helping to raise a family in the future. With the help of the teachers and helping the students live the American Dream, it helps with the way our world will be in the future. Students will be prepared for what the real world is like and how they are supposed to act and behave. I believe Ms. Kackley is a teacher who performs the American Dream at her full potential to students in this present time.

Adrienne Fraczkowski

11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Delaware Military Academy

Tamara Averell- AP Biology, Integrated Science I, Science Olympiad Coach

When I read this poem, I immediately think of my AP Biology teacher and Science Olympiad coach, Mrs. Averell. Having been in Mrs. Averell's class since my freshman year, I have observed her teaching style for some time. Even though she teaches different courses, there is always the underlying theme of enthusiasm, compassion, and honesty in her instruction. Every day she inspires us to accomplish something that we had no idea was possible. She is realistic with us about what we are capable of, but she encourages us to set our goals high and work hard to achieve them. Somehow she understands which students need more aid or attention than others, and gives just the right amount of assistance for every situation. Mrs. Averell understands when we need support and when she can let us figure things out on our own, which enriches us academically but also teaches us valuable life lessons. I have never felt like I was just part of the class, she knows each and every one of her students and knows exactly how to shape them into responsible, hardworking learners that try as hard as they can. Mrs. Averell is tough when she needs to be and gives us a push in the right direction when we require it. In her eyes, every student has potential, even if they need a little bit of extra help to accomplish their aspirations. In many ways, Mrs. Averell is the kind of educator that the poem illustrates. If all educators cared for and nurtured their students like she does, we would have many more young adults reaching their full potential. Not many people realize the impact she makes on her pupils until after leaving her class, but I know that she has played a huge role in molding me into the student that I am today.

Mark Davis  
11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Delaware Military Academy  
Mr. Scarborough  
US History

Great Teaching Essay Contest

My definition of an American Dream is to raise a family and to be successful. Successful to me means being respected and loved by my family, friends and co-workers. I don't think that you have to have a college education to be happy. I think it helps you make a decent living and to help you in the future. My plan is to go to college for criminal justice and work as a state police officer working with K-9's.

My teacher, Mr. Scarborough, is a great example of a person that lives the American Dream. He is an educated man and is an honest. He doesn't judge anyone for their decisions. He doesn't hold it against you if you don't like his class. He treats us all the same way. Mr. Scarborough seems to have achieved his dream of teaching what he's passionate about. I respect anyone who works at what they love to do and not just because you want a paycheck. I always learn something when I leave his class. He is a great teacher and a great person to look up to. Mr. Scarborough encourages everyone to live the American Dream.

I am so grateful to go to DMA and I know all the teachers want the cadets to be happy and live their own "American Dream", but Mr. Scarborough stands out from all the other teachers. He, as well as some of the other teachers, is always willing to stay after on their personal time to help their students. This is one of the many things that makes DMA special.

Logan Rucinski  
April 18, 2012  
Essay Contest

Throughout my years I've had a lot of teachers, some good and some bad. This year I have had the pleasure of being taught by Mr. Scarborough, the U.S History teacher. Mr. Scarborough is easily one of the best teachers I've had. He has helped give me the American Dream by providing me with so much knowledge and information. I have learned so much in his class this year and can't wait to learn more. The knowledge I am obtaining in Mr. Scarborough's class is beneficiary in helping me achieve the American Dream. In my opinion, without a good education the American Dream is hard to obtain. An education can go a long way. Without it, it is nearly impossible to find a well paying job and without a well paying job it would be hard to live. Mr. Scarborough is providing me with the proper education to move on from high school to college and to achieve the American Dream. I think the best kind of teacher is one who connects with the students and makes the subject easy to comprehend and Mr. Scarborough does a perfect job of that. Not only does he connect with the students, but he makes the class fun. A history lecture is not the most riveting class but I can sit in class and listen to him teach all day. A teacher like Mr. Scarborough helps students achieve the American Dream by giving them a proper and professional education.

Connor Wilson (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Delaware Military Academy

Mr. Grant (Band/Chorus/Music Appreciation)

The American Dream is success from nothing, failing twice and then getting right the third time. The American Dream is remembering the men and women who came to this country in order to have a better life. And there it is, the definition of the American Dream. The definition of the American Dream is to have a better life, mostly through hard work and dedication. These ideals are held up in the DMA band by Mr. Grant. No teacher that I've ever had has personified the American Dream like my band teacher Mr. Grant. Mr. Grant started the music program at DMA. It started from nothing. Through his own personal hard work and dedication Mr. Grant has turned the DMA Music program into a well-respected program from people around the state. He has also given his students the American Dream. Students of all kinds are in band, athletic, smart, funny, rich, poor, black, white, and every other category you can think of. He gives them a family, a team, and a goal. At the beginning of the year the band season starts with some dots on paper and some notes written on a staff. That's our nothing. We have ink on paper staring back at us. But through his persistent yelling, encouraging, and helping we learn how to make the music flow, the field show look great, and how to fuse the two to make a great show. Kids that have no feeling of a team of family anywhere else can join this band and have that feeling. And for the kid that maybe hasn't had a whole lot of success? Well the DMA Band does quite well. We placed second in our division and for several years prior, won the division. So Mr. Grant takes you in as a high school freshman, young and raw. He takes that freshman and begins molding you. And by the end you have a family and success and in the process have made something beautiful with music and entertainment. Mr. Grant truly can and will make your life better.

Teacher: Jay Mulqueen (History)  
Student: Madison Goebel  
School: Delaware Military Academy  
Grade: 12

Mr. Mulqueen has encouraged me to pursue my own personal American Dream since the beginning of the year, and I'll bet he doesn't even know it. It's always frustrating to sit through one of Mr. Mulqueen's quizzes, because there are hardly any straight forward answers. He encourages us to think outside the box, challenging thinking past simple note taking. Grades and scores mean nothing to Mr. Mulqueen compared to a cadet's true understanding and application of the material. To Mr. Mulqueen, students are more than a name on the roster. Whenever I've needed extra help after class, Mr. Mulqueen has been enthusiastic about answering my questions. After helping to open the fantastic charter school where I've been molded into a mature, confident young adult, Mr. Mulqueen only looks to the future. Harping continuously on my years after the academy, I know Mr. Mulqueen sees me and my peers as his own children. Whether its financial pointers or help with the college search, Mr. Mulqueen has always gone above and beyond to make sure I'm set for whatever lies ahead. Although Mr. Mulqueen is retiring this year to live out the rest of his American Dream, mine is just getting started thanks to his help.

Warrant Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Steve Hoagland is not only a teacher but also a friend. Warrant is someone who cares about me and motivates me to be my best. He teaches Naval Science, which is a class about leadership, citizenship, and military education. Warrant does not only teach these qualities, he lives them.

I don't have Warrant Officer's class yet, but that is not to say he hasn't taught me anything. From the first time we met he has been teaching me lessons ever since. He has taught me you can be liked by the people under you as well as respected. He taught me this not through words but through actions. His students have told me that they love the way Warrant respects them, and they owe him the respect he pays them.

I don't consider Warrant as just another teacher. He is much more than that to me. I genuinely care about him, as I know he cares about me. He knows that I want to attend a service academy, and he is so willing to help me with this goal. He allowed me to attend a trip to the Coast Guard Academy and Merchant Marine Academy with him. This shows what kind of person he really is. He is the type of person who puts others before himself. Words can't describe the great things I have to say about this man.

Warrant not only is a friend who cares about me, he also motivates me to be the best person I can. As a Boy Scout I strive to be an Eagle Scout, and Warrant is there trying to help me. He suggested projects I could do to attain the rank. He does not only help me with out of school activities, he also motivates me to do well in school. He always stops what he's doing to talk to me. When he asks me about my grades, I know he wants me to do my best.

Not only is Warrant the best teacher, he is a role model. Warrant Cares about me and my well being and is someone I look up to. His actions prove him to be a leader and great person. Warrant has made me a better person. He is Educator of the Year because he makes me want to be the best I can also I respect and look up to him.

Harrison Dempsey wrote this. He's a 9th grader at the Delaware Military Academy in Wilmington, DE 19804.

Philip Davis  
11th Grade  
Delaware Military Academy  
Mr. Scarborough  
U.S History  
Great Teaching Essay

Mr. Scarborough, a teacher at the Delaware Military Academy, helps his students achieve the "American Dream" by preparing them for life after high school. He is firm, but fair and teaches us how to succeed in the classroom, so we may achieve our dreams beyond high school.

Mr. Scarborough teaches us the meaning of discipline. He teaches us to stay focused on the task at hand, and to look forward to the rewards of staying disciplined in our studies. He keeps us focused on learning by making schoolwork fun and interesting. He teaches organizational skills, which help his students be ready for school and work. He teaches us to be self-motivated by having us try new things on our own first, but he is always willing to help us along the way, if needed. He pushes us to be more self-reliant, to work in a group setting as well as individuals. As the Chinese proverb states "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you will feed him for a lifetime." Mr. Scarborough teaches and leads by example in core values such as truthfulness, respect, punctuality and pride. He believes in community service and encourages us to help people who are less fortunate. He teaches us to stand up for ourselves and to be respectful of others by maintaining a classroom where students can participate in discussions comfortably.

Mr. Scarborough has a strong work ethic and advises us of how important this is in our lives as students now and later as employees in the workplace. He teaches us that if we work hard and stay focused on the task we will succeed. He gives one hundred percent in his daily instruction and advises us we should always give the same to our studies.

Mr. Scarborough preaches teamwork to his students. He teaches us to strive for personal achievement, also shows us so much more can be done if we work as a team. He teaches us to help others cadets out when they are in need. One thing I will always remember even after graduation is that you never leave a team member behind.

The life skills Mr. Scarborough has taught me will help me achieve my dreams. They can be used in school and anywhere along life's path. I am proud to put on my uniform and call myself a Delaware Military Academy Cadet.

Hannah Belair A1  
April 18, 2013

### The Great Teaching Essay Contest

After reading the poem, The New American Dream by former Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Warner I realized that many of my teachers are successful in giving us the American Dream. I believe my Spanish 3 teacher, Mrs.Kackley, is a great example of teachers giving students the American Dream. Mrs.Kackley gives me the American Dream every B-day. She is always upbeat and makes great conversation, while teaching at the same time. I have learned more from Mrs.Kackley this year than I have learned in any previous Spanish course. Mrs.Kackley has also taught us some valuable life lessons that have helped me in everyday social situations. I believe Mrs. Kackley gives her students the American Dream in class and she has a special bond with her students. In the poem it says, "Give me your children who need love as badly as they need learning." I believe that Mrs. Kackley portrays this line every time she teaches. She is always alert of her students and truly cares for us. If you are having a bad day she will help lift your sprits and is very encouraging. Her positive attitude in class helps make school environment livelier, which is much needed in the first period of the day. In my opinion Mrs. Kackley is preparing us for the future of America and what the American is today. She teaches us to improve our lives and make us better prepared for college and our futures, whatever they may be. Mrs.Kackley makes our dreams

Paul Wolfe  
4-16-13  
A5

I would like to nominate Mrs. Dick she is a very nice, funny, and caring teacher and person. She is an excellent teacher; in fact she has been given many awards for teaching students. She makes sure we know out stuff before she continues with her teaching. She is also a very good role model. The way you treat her, is the way she treats you back. She runs a pretty tight ship in my book. Within her social life, and her grading and dealing with all the kids who could care less about there grade. She offers RTI to students who don't understand or have trouble comprehending. Mrs. Dick is one of my favorite teachers due to her knowledge, teaching, humor, and her personality. For example we had a quiz on a book, To Kill A Mockingbird. We had literary terms we had to know the definitions and how to use them in an example. All of the classes did horrible! We had a vocabulary test later in the week. So she pushed back the vocab test, and we had a second chance to show Mrs. Dick that we did indeed know our literary terms. And not many teachers would do that for her students. To me this shows that Mrs. Dick does care about her students and if they excell in there knowledge. She likes to do as much stuff as possible but she doesn't rush anything to where no kid understands what is going on in the class. She also doesn't like when students misses tests, so she offers them to come into mini block to take the test or quiz before you leave school. No idea what is going on? No worries! Mrs. Dick is there to help with no matter what it is! Social problems or school issues! Many teachers in our school have nominated Mrs. Dick, and I think she is a very good and understanding teacher.

Melissa Mizell  
11th grade  
Delaware Military Adademy  
Red Clay School District

All of my teachers that I have ever had in the past has helped me get one step closer to the American Dream. Getting an education is a major part of reaching the American Dream . One teacher that I have this year in particular has especially helped me a lot. Mr. Scarborough, my U.S. History teacher is an amazon person to work with. You can ask him any question you want and he has an educated answer to give you. This is an inspiration to many people. When you listen to him do his classes and lectures, you cannot help but want to be so passionate about what you do for the rest of your life and know as much about your passion as he does. Not only is Mr. Scarborough teaching us History, he is teaching his classes that to be successful in life you don't have to have a big flashy job to bag about, all you need is something that you can really get into and you have to enjoy what you do. If you don't enjoy what you end up doing in life there is no point in doing it. That is my opinion on the America Dream, and Mr. Scarborough is a great job of helping not just me, but all of his students in reaching their definition of the American Dream.

The teacher that has impacted my life in a great manner, whom I have had both my freshman and junior years of high school, is Mrs. Tamara Averell. I first had the great opportunity of having Mrs. Averell for Earth Sciences in freshman year. She was known as the cool teacher that taught in an engaging way. She was such a good teacher, I even got an A on her final even though science is not one of my strongest subjects. Aside from having Mrs. Av as my teacher, I also had her for study hall and science Olympiad, which allows me to use a computer every mini block and to study with other students doing the same work that I am doing. Her mini-block was the only one that allowed us to talk and work together. Because of this, I have remained in Mrs. Av's mini block all of high school.

When I learned that Mrs. Averell taught AP Biology, I knew that I had to take the class. I knew that though I wasn't as strong in science as I am in other subjects, Mrs. Av would give me everything I needed to succeed and do well on both the AP Exam and her class. Mrs. Av even gives up her lunch time to allow other students and I a quiet place to study and do work while we eat lunch. She does everything that she can to help us succeed. For AP Bio, she even stayed after school for 3 extra, unpaid hours so we could take a practice AP Exam. Though AP Bio is a highly academic class, we have lots of fun as well. We have parties from time to time and at the last one (when we stayed after) she made us chocolate chip pancakes, sausage, and scrambled egg casserole. Mrs. Av's door is always open and she even opens up her phone for anyone to get the help they need. We all text or call her whenever we need her help and she is always there to answer our calls.

By: Hunter Withers (Junior at the Delaware Military Academy)