

Friday



Well, that Thursday entry was less than exciting I think. Hopefully this will be an improvement- 8th grade. In near-city district. At the end of the year. When another job popped up in a different district I was tempted to dump this one for it, but in the end I didn't have any issues thanks to required worksheets to be filled out while watching a movie. It was a social studies class, but she also taught one literacy class- I think all teachers teach one class outside their specialty to save on paying for another teacher since the numbers allowed for this. Obviously, if this would cause the class sizes to be 35+ they would probably pay for an additional teacher.

So I arrived in the morning to handwritten plans, a videotape, a few stacks of papers, and two machines I could play the tape in- one a TV on a cart, the other a projector with a combo DVD player/VCR. Being the tech person I am, I chose the projector, but first I had to hook everything up. I plugged the projector and DVD player in and connected them with the supplied A/V cable. Well, finished connecting- for some reason some connections were already there while others were not- interesting. I had time to test it out, so I did. Eww, was that it for volume? I turned the projector volume to max but then it just sounded bad. Hmm. Wait, there is an additional speaker on the bottom of the cart, but how to plug the video into the projector and the audio into the speaker? The cable was such that it couldn't be split. What was this? A second audio cable! Only- no. It had a mini-end to plug the computer (also on the cart) into the speaker, but neither the speaker nor the player had a place to plug in the mini end, but all was not lost- the projector had an audio output and it was a mini- problem solved. The player went to the projector, the projector to the speaker. Done. The only

issue I had all day with this setup was the speaker A/C plug kept coming loose, but fortunately not during the video.

So in the end four classes saw the video (a very unexciting one about Congress), the one literacy class had a quiz and a reading assignment from their books, and the tutorial (study hall) was... very small. Only a handful of students apparently had tutorial with this teacher. I caught up on some book-reading during this time. Then I was done with an off period. Or not. The office called me and had me watch over a group of kids in the gym where they had some free-time (it was an LD class, but I saw a few friends from the BD/ED class there as well with another teacher).

So that was my week in review, in five posts. How was yours?

□