

## Brandon Cook Shares the Benefit of Teaching and Coaching at a High School in His Hometown of Surry County

I am Brandon Cook and I am a country boy, although I am not supposed to tell you that, because I am supposed to speak very wisely because I am an English teacher. However, I took the making fun of when I was in Greensboro. Now, nobody makes fun of me because I am back home and I speak exactly like they speak.

The thing is if there is an opportunity for you if you are in secondary ed, to try to get into the classroom as much as you can. That means waking up early some days, which is a bummer, and going, finding someone, and going to a school and hanging out, watching teachers, see what they do.

Another class that I took here, Diverse Learners, and I think every education major has to take Diverse Learners, learning the way different people learn. With Bella (listen to Mollie McAllister's story), getting those, touching those parts of that person's heart, I guess, and connecting to that person really brings them out.

As me with coaching....for some of you that want to be coaches, it is a time commitment. Basketball season is very long, and you get home at 12 o'clock in the morning, and then you go back to school the next day like nothing ever happened. But, you get to see these kids at a totally different level than you ever have. It is awesome to see these kids in the classroom, and then to go, and you do, you hang out with them on the bus and then on the basketball court. And you get to see them and you teach them something and you really get to see it happen right there. In the classroom, a lot of times we have to wait, we have to wait to the end sometimes we have to wait until those little tests come up and we get to give them a test and then we get see how they have grown. But on a basketball court, you get to teach them something and then they'll go do it and you get to see that. And some kids who are struggling in the classroom, you can get them out there on the basketball court and they can achieve something there, and that directly effects how they do in the classroom.