

Chicken Soup

for

Friendswood ISD

My name is Milton Brock and I have been asked by many people why I substitute teach at Friendswood High School. The short answer is because I love it. But, let me share with you exactly how it happened.

Mr. Tucker, who is now an AP at FHS, asked me when I retired from insurance 12 years ago if I had thought about substitute teaching. I said, “no but I would like to give it a try.” My first sub job was teaching in Mr. Tucker’s AP Economics class.

That first day, as I waited for my first class, they appeared with this rush of energy that I had not seen in a long time. Energy is contagious and soon I felt myself being energized by these high school students. I knew that day this is what I was meant to do. A student asked me if I liked subbing and I said ABSOLUTELY.

I have grown to love the students at FHS. They bring great joy to my life every day and I have been a sub for the past 12 years. They are very respectful and I try to give them a life lesson as time allows. When I get home from school, my wife wants to know how school went. It reminds me how my mother used to ask me the same question.

I have been blessed to be able to keep in touch with some students and it is amazing to see what they are doing. One student who was not very motivated in high school is getting her B.A. in Nursing.

I have learned a couple of lessons in my 12 years. The first lesson is the leadership principle that says people do not care how much you know until they know how much you care. That is 100% true at FHS. High school students know very soon if you care about them.

I have learned to listen better. If you listen to them, you establish a better relationship with them. They like it when you pay attention.

My life has been so blessed and impacted over the last 12 years by the students at FHS. I will NEVER FORGET them as long as I live.

-Milton Brock, FHS Substitute Teacher