

Ms. Taylor Kline - Greenville Early College High School

Subject(s) taught:

Currently: Dual Credit Precalculus, Dual Credit Calculus I, Dual Credit Calculus II, Dual Credit Calculus III, Dual Credit Differential Equations, Geometry, and AP Computer Science Principals. She also serves as the proctor for Dual Credit University Physics I and II.

Previously: Algebra II, Dual Credit College Algebra, and Dual Credit Elementary Statistics.

Ms. Taylor Kline is the upper-level, dual-credit mathematics instructor for Greenville Early College High School (GECHS). The program is a P-Tech program that focuses on providing students with dual credit opportunities in a STEM-based career pathway. Ms. Kline currently teaches Dual Credit Precalculus, Dual Credit Calculus I, Dual Credit Calculus II, Dual Credit Calculus III, Dual Credit Differential Equations, Geometry, and Advancement Placement Computer Science Principles. She is also the proctor for Dual Credit University Physics I and II.

Ms. Kline has served in her advanced math position for 4 years. During this time, she has been an integral part of the Greenville Early College High School program. Without Ms. Kline's extensive knowledge of mathematics and physics, GECHS would not be able to provide the instruction necessary for its students to earn their Applied Science, Associates Degree in Engineering. The GECHS engineering program is intensive and requires students to master math and science concepts that few adults tackle. Without the guidance of a highly skilled and relationally focused teacher, the course work would be insurmountable. Ms. Kline has an amazing ability when it comes to conveying incredibly complex concepts to students. She makes the information approachable and helps boost students' confidence. Ms. Kline creates a joyful and challenging atmosphere in her classroom. She uses collaborative learning strategies and hands-on projects whenever possible. She recently had her geometry students create a Pythagorean Theorem Spiral project that was so engaging that the students asked if they could do extra work and create more extensive examples. The students were proud of their work. They were also excited they could tie their individualism and creativity to the required mathematical concepts they were learning. Ms. Kline has created similar joy during her tessellations lesson and projects as well as the students' hand-constructed dodecahedron projects. It is a joy to watch Ms. Kline move beyond the stereotypes that math classes can have and approach a challenging subject with out-of-the-box thinking.



In addition to her masterful teaching, Ms. Kline supports students beyond academics. She has helped organize and host GECHS student engagement nights. She attends sporting events to cheer on her GECHS students. She has volunteered to participate in the first annual GHS Fashion Show, where she will be modeling attire created by the GHS fashion design students. Ms. Kline's care for her students does not stop at graduation either. She recently sent a previous graduate encouraging emails before a difficult university engineering exam. She has also provided tutoring opportunities for GECHS graduates who have continued their education in STEM majors and needed additional support in math and science. Ms. Kline consistently goes above and beyond to build relationships with her students and support them to success.

Ms. Kline has also been eager and willing to partner with the larger community. Ms. Kline is a shining example of a dedicated teacher. She has attended and spoken at school board meetings on behalf of the GECHS program. She participates in every GECHS event. She has written grants to seek funding and resources for GECHS and helped organize parent meetings and informational nights. She has also gone above and beyond

by helping to design GECHS recruitment materials and informational flyers for parents. Ms. Kline also participates each year in the interview and selection process for incoming GECHS students. Her efforts have and continue to help the program grow by encouraging new students to enter into our engineering program.

The GECHS program has had two graduating classes of seniors thus far, totaling thirty GECHS graduates. Those thirty students were in large part able to attain their associate degree in engineering because of Ms. Kline. Without her amazing abilities to create joy in advanced math courses, encourage students through challenging material, and make math approachable and relatable, the students of GECHS would not have been able to reach the success they have.

Ms. Taylor Kline is highly recommended for the AFA Teacher of the Year award. Ms. Kline is certainly deserving of this honor. She is an essential part of Greenville Early College High School. Her dedication to her students and the program is unparalleled. Ms. Kline's incredible work ethic and passion for her subject area are making an impact on STEM students every single day. She has made a positive impact on the school and the community.

Senior Letterman Jacket Ceremony - Ms. Kline helps plan and execute the annual GECHS Letterman Jacket Ceremony. Ms. Kline created the ceremony programs in Canva, helped decorate for the event, and helped honor each senior during the event. The joy evident on her face exemplifies who she is as an educator. She loves her students and her craft.



Tessellation Project - The Tessellation project used the properties of rotations, reflections, and translations to create patterns and designs from a student-created trace. Students began with a square notecard and were instructed to cut out odd pieces, which were then moved to another edge of the notecard and taped to it. Students used this notecard (the trace) to make a pattern across their posters, and then they had to decorate the established patterns. The students were engaged and challenged.



Pythagorean Theorem Spiral Project - For this project, students were asked to use constructions of dilating right triangles to create an intricate design. Students used a compass to build accurate right triangles by

hand. Starting with the second right triangle, each subsequent triangle would use the previous hypotenuse as the new leg to construct a right triangle from, resulting in triangles that progressively grew in size and spiraled around the page. Students were then expected to decorate their spiral, adding creativity to this challenging construction. Who knew math could be as beautiful and creative as Ms. Kline makes it?!



Hand-created Dodecahedron Project - The Dodecahedron project was intended to allow students to show off their construction skills and their geometry knowledge. Students made regular pentagons inscribed in circles by hand, using a straight edge and a compass. Then, they had to replicate these inscribed pentagons 12 times, to create the faces for their dodecahedrons. On the faces, students were asked to display information about the angles of a pentagon, the area of a single face of the dodecahedron, the volume of their 3-D solid, as well as some fun information such as their favorite quote, something that they are looking forward to next school year, etc. Ms. Kline then hangs the students' projects from the ceiling in my classroom. The projects are proudly on display as the students progress through the rest of their math classes for their engineering degrees. Ms. Kline gives the projects back to the students during the last week of their senior year. This project has become a wonderful GECHS tradition. The students love seeing their work displayed, and getting the projects back has become a special rite of passage, well-earned after many hours of intensive math and science courses!



GECHS Press Release Links - Ms. Kline has been an integral part of the GECHS team and plays a large part in the success GECHS has seen.

https://www.heraldbanner.com/news/local_news/ghs-early-college-high-school-program-grows-to-provide-more-opportunity-to-students/article_677a8876-b588-11ee-927a-63db1ae529e8.html

https://heraldbanner-cnhi.newsmemory.com/?publink=034aa829c_134d11c