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I am entering my 18th year of teaching, but if you ask me, I still consider myself more of a student than a teacher. My students teach me things daily about what motivates them, what moves them, and what drives them to learn, achieve and excel. I have four distinct goals for each of my students this year, and they include getting them to "read like a detective" to become an ACTIVE citizen in their community, learn to become a "wordsmith", and to become good note takers. I try to take that valuable intel and incorporate it into my lesson plans and activities so that rather than "watching the clock" in my class or counting down the seconds till they can leave. I try to make each day one in which they dread the sound of the bell because that means they'll have to wait until tomorrow to find out "the rest of the story" Teaching and promoting US history/government is fascinating to me, because as I often tell them, its called History for a reason, put another way its really a bunch of stories about "us" as people, a nation, and individuals that all conspire to bring about tragic as well heroic events. The best part of all of this is I get to teach "life lessons" all along the way. Not only do I get to tell stories all day, but TRUE stories to a captive audience. How lucky am I?!! :)

