* ***How will you contribute to the effectiveness, vitality and self renewal of the teaching profession and of their school and community?***

The teaching profession as a whole is one large PLC. Teachers are continually borrowing, using, and “stealing” ideas from other teachers using books, magazines, wikispaces, blogs, etc. As my beginning mentor teacher used to tell me, “Why reinvent the wheel?” The greatest resource teachers have is each other, but it needs to be a give and take relationship.

As part of my school PD’s, I always try to give 5-10 minutes at the end for teachers to discuss they have with the tool I just presented. It helps give the teachers ideas of things they can use in their classroom. I try to make every PD I teach meaningful for the teachers. I don’t want them to feel like it is just something else the “have to” do. I want them to think that it is something the “want to” do in their classrooms.

* ***In what ways will you give back to the education profession and larger learning community? (Grants, Online Lesson plans, Flipped Classroom Lesson, etc.)***

There are a few ways that I try to give back to my community. First, I send out a “Quick Tip” to the teachers at my schools about once every other week. These tips can give them ideas of a new app, website, or activity that they can use in their classroom. I have gotten a lot of positive feedback from teachers about the tips. I also love sending these out because it gives them a chance to ask me questions, so I can continue to help them.

Many teachers are undecided when it comes to integrating technology into the classroom. They feel like they don’t know what they would do with it if they did have it. I have been working really hard to give teachers possible project ideas. Being able to see the possibilities, gives them the hope that they will actually use it, and now they are beginning to come to me asking how they can get it. Since the beginning of the year, I have worked with a lot of teachers to guide them through the grant writing process. In fact, some have already been funded. In addition, I have teachers that put in for the Foundations Grant as well. Many of these teachers have not put in for grants in the past because they didn’t know what to do with the technology once they got it.

Another way I am giving back to the community is by teaching at UCET. I taught my first session last year, and had over 45 people attend. I am excited to teach again this year with exciting new material.