

Tara Croce Park

tpark@pavcsk12.org

"...Her rapport with her students is amazing. She is fun, creative, challenging, affirming, honest, helpful, and truly dedicated. The ways that she integrates technology, instruction, real-life experience, and active participation is both remarkable and inspiring..."

Stephanie Schlueter
Sixth Grade Parent

"... He expresses over and over again how much he loves your online classes. Science has always been a class he struggled in, but this year he looks forward to class..."

Sean and Kathy Coffey,
Sixth Grade parent

Philosophy of Education

I believe that all students can learn in the right environment with quality instruction. All students should be given the opportunity to learn, be challenged and utilize higher order and critical thinking skills. Students should be taught and assessed in authentic ways that allow them to utilize technology so that they will thrive in the 21st century.

Education, Honors, and Certifications

Master's Instructional Technology

Widener University- expected graduation 2012

Bachelors of Science, Elementary Education

West Chester University. 2001

Key Qualifications

- Certification- Elementary Education
- Certification- Middle School English
- Certification- Middle School History
- ITLG Grant 2011/2012- Make Your Online Classroom Bloom with STEM- Created an online STEM lab where students are able to follow the engineering design process based on NASA's BEST program. Students work on monthly design challenges and are visited via webcam by actual NASA scientists and engineers.
- Blackboard Collaborate and Blackboard Learn, expert user
- Glogster Ambassador- 2011/2012
- Vast experience in teaching online. Extensive experience using web tools and incorporating ISTE NET's and technology standards into teaching practices.
- Dedicated to enthusiastic and challenging instruction fostering a love of learning in students.

Employment

Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School

- Innovation in Teaching and Learning Grant Recipient, 2011/2012
- Sixth Grade Teacher, 2010-2012
- Project Leader to the CEO, for Technology, 2010/2011
- Fifth/Sixth Grade Teacher, 2009/2010
- Seventh/Eighth Grade World History Teacher, 2007-2009
- PSSA Site Coordinator, 2006-2011
- Mentor, 2005-2007
- Kindergarten-Fourth Grade Teacher, 2004-2007

Chester Charter School

- Fifth Grade Special Needs/Behavioral Support, 2004/2005
- First Grade, 2003/2004

"...she is challenging our already self-motivated son to improve his work, to continue to strive for excellence in all he does. She is encouraging, kind, helpful and as a result, he is excited to attend her classes and to learn from her. In my mind, there's just nothing better than a student who is eager to learn partnered with a teacher who is eager to teach! Mrs. Park's students are in for an AWESOME year!"

Rebekah Hallberg,
Sixth Grade Parent

"During my first telephone conference call with Tara, I realized straight away that she was more than a teacher, she was my academic partner.

Dawn Lubetski,
Sixth Grade parent

Professional Affiliations

Association for Supervision and Curriculum, ASCD
International Society for Technology Education, ISTE
International Association for K-12 Online Learning, iNACOL
Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Technology, PAECT

Conference Presentations

- **ISTE 2011-** Blackboard Collaborate- How to Access Higher Order Thinking Skills with Breakout Rooms
- **Blackboard Collaborate 2011-** Panel on Student Engagement
- **PA Virtual, Professional Development-** Make Your Online Classroom Come Alive with Glogster
- **Organized Webinar for ISTE's SIGOL-** Brandon Lutz's 60 in 60
- **iNACOL 2011-** Panel on Student Communication and Teacher Best Practices
- **ISTE SIGILT Webinar 2011-** How to Use Storybird in your Classroom
- **iNACOL Teacher Talk Webinar January 2012-** Access Higher Order Thinking Skills through Breakout Rooms.
- **PETE and C 2012-** Make Your Online Classroom "Bloom" with STEM!
- **PETE and C 2012-** Creating Connections, Virtually