

May 2019

# ST.SOME-BALANCE-TIMES

V217



May was a month of balancing my job, dealing with Ramadan curveballs, and overall lack of excitement about ....something.... there has to be more to life. May blues. Endofschoolyearblues?

## Balance in the Job

My current job in my chosen career requires balance. I've always preached balance is the key to any relationship - whether it's job related or interpersonal. This month has certainly been both. We work as a team (three of us). Imagine the balance that takes! This month has been full of unforeseen mishaps with Chromebooks not working, power, wireless mishaps, new Enterprise wireless on the horizon, and a deep look into the challenge of computer replacement school wide as the curtains close on the 5 year cycle. More work for us.

It's great that I thrive in the unknown. I have absolutely no control over what will happen next year. Our technology is moving into a new puzzle. A few snorks and snafus are turning up. Will weasels enter the henhouse over the summer and disrupt our coming year? Will the tech gods look favorably on us when we return?

Who knows. I love my job. Even with lots of unknowns. The worst part of May lay entirely with personal time.... there has to be something for me. What do I do if not work?

*The book should be done by now. It's not. Close. Almost done. But what do I do when I am finished? Do I send it to an editor, an editing team, my third grade teacher? The journey is an event in and of itself. Somehow I want to have a book published that doesn't look like a high school project book. No offense, but few books about international teaching look like they just met the deadline for Mr. Levine's fifth grade English class. Mine has to be set apart from that.*



*"Amet, ligula suspendisse  
nulla pretium, rhoncus  
tempor placerat."*



# Traveling Home Again

**In the immortal lyrics of Ozzy Osborne: “Mama.... Mama, I’m coming home.” (again)**

**It’s time to visit the USA again. As school winds down and June 2019 approaches at Light Speed, I look forward to setting foot on our sovereign soil again. Life is moving on at a staggering pace both at home and abroad.**

**I’ve been overseas 18 years. That’s 18 years away from the friends and family that have grown accustomed to my absence from graduations, birthdays, proms, hospital visits, and family reunions. I like to think that I have attended the really important events. This wedding is one of them - Giddy-UP!**

**Samantha is graduating from high school this year! Uggh. It’s so hard to believe how many years it’s been since I first held little Sam as an infant.**

## When Students are asked about Summer...

At the end of the school year, my favorite question for my students is: “Where are you going this summer?”

Here is the short list of replies: Tunisia, DisneyWorld, UK, Ireland, Pakistan, Spain, Russia, Maldives,

Uganda, Pakistan, Southern France, USA, India, Sri Lanka, Dubai, staying home in Saudi Arabia, Georgia (not the state), Albania, Germany, Italy, Malaysia, Croatia, Venezuela, Colombia, Australia, Scotland, Lebanon then

USA then somewhere else, I don’t know, somewhere not here.