



# St. Some Times

*V275 AUGUST 2023*

I know. Do you?

2023

# By the Numbers

2024



130

## NEW STUDENTS

Our homeroom cap increased to 25 students. It was 18-20 in 2016 when I taught homeroom. Not only that, our LEP students and Special Needs students ratios have skyrocketed. Ugh. Trifecta of a shitstorm for teaching.



1,200

## TOTAL STUDENTS

Our company plans out two years in advance. It's not a school. It's a school within a corporation. That means, during Covid, they planned for fewer employees. Hence fewer students were planned for. Whoops. That didn't work.



88

## TOTAL STAFF

This number doesn't reflect teachers. It reflects total staff in our building serving almost 1,200 students. That's certainly not enough, but we are getting paid. I'm just thinking about how this affects students' learning.



1,236

## CHROMEBOOKS ETC.

This is just part of what our "tech team" is in charge of for the building. My other job when not teaching. We also have around 800 desktops, monitors, smart boards, projectors, and document cameras. This will be an interesting year. I am the only building tech facilitator now. We used to be 2 1/2. The half -tech is my way of considering the tech skills of certain fruits, when I wasn't alone.

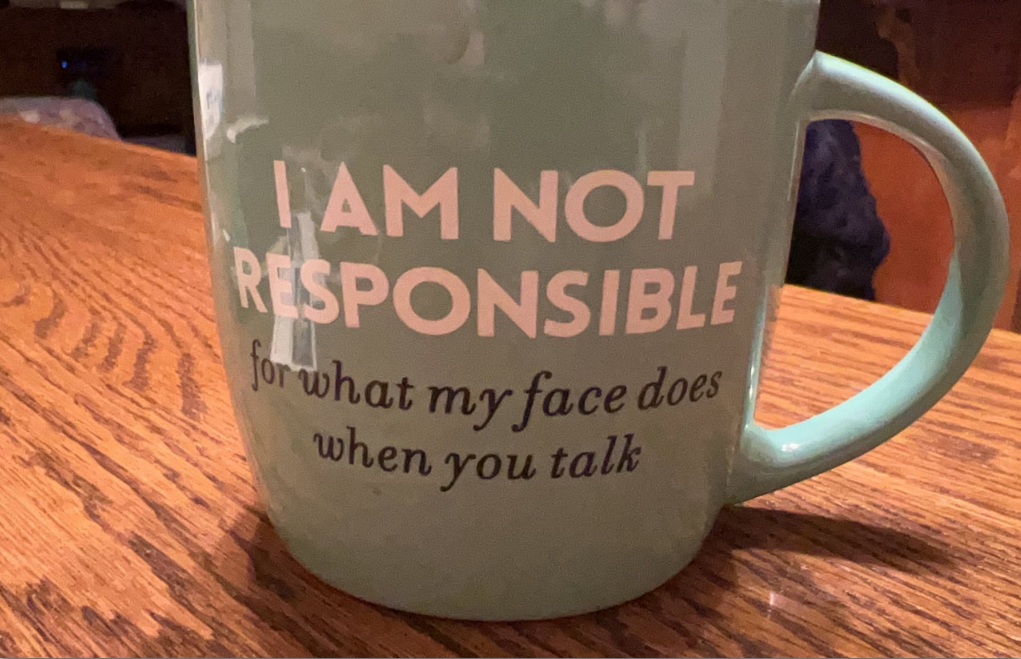


## Table for Three in Bahrain *At My Café*

I did it again. I just can't say no to Kent and Carla. An expensive, pampered overnight in Bahrain at the Ritz Carlton. Oh so expensive. But oh, so fun.

It was the weekend before my 23rd year of teaching. Why not indulge in some pampering. The three of us went through all the border patrols for Saudi and Bahrain, known as "the Causeway" experience. We left around 8am and made it to our My Café for breakfast by 9:15. Bliss. Beers and coffee for me. Bubbly, wine, and cappuccinos for them. They love their wine!

This restaurant is one of the most beautiful places I have ever eaten. Truly. My Café is worth investigating for another in-depth issue. I'll do a deep dive next time and report on it with plenty of pictures. Suffice it to say, this was another weekend of expensive pampering just days before the students filled our halls again.



## So True

Body Language is one of my new interests. I came across this gem of a coffee mug while I was reading about BL

*Reading faces is not something I've ever been good at. One of my long-time faults is being overly trusting. I aim to tackle that fault by learning to understand the body language. Many of our motions and emotions are controlled subconsciously. We cannot help it. The art, my goal, is to be adept at reading those motions and emotions.*

## Still Haven't Totally Unpacked

Last issue, I wrote about my apartment. Not that you care. I'm just kinda' adding this for my own memory. I've been in this current shithole since May of 2023. Months. So here is what I HAVE actually done. Bed, desk, TV shelf, rower, wooden man, projector entertainment shelves above my bed, all installed. (My projector exploded the other night. Had to move my TV upstairs. I'll get another projector soon.) And, I actually unpacked every box except four. Like I have said for the past few months, I'll get to it.

I still have to put up pictures, shower curtain, shelves in bathroom, do heaps of laundry, and finally fix my NAS so I can watch movies from my collection again.

Oops. Took a shower this morning. As I left for school, I noticed the ceiling dripping water onto my stove. Hint: my kitchen is the floor below my luxurious new bathroom. Now I get to call housing again. I'll let you know in a year, if it's fixed. I'm being generous. Oh, island life! Sigh.



This "island life" is best described as similar to life on a U.S. Army Base overseas.

