Let’s go back for a moment to a simpler time, back to 2019 when you may have “struggled to differentiate.” When you tried to meet the needs of all students who came to you with different levels of readiness, who had different physical, emotional, and cognitive profiles, and who learned best under different scenarios.


Teaching is much more complicated now, and you are most likely in a situation where your students are scattered in some way. It may be one or a combination of these:

- Half of your class is at home while the other half is in-person, then this switches the next day.
- Some of your students are all-virtual, all the time.
- Even the kids you do have face-to-face (F2F) have to be socially distanced and therefore can’t collaborate and interact the way they once could.

Before, a teacher only had to worry about meeting students where they were academically, socially, and emotionally. Now you literally have to figure out a way to meet them where they are.

Depending on who’s running your school, you may be expected to do any number of instructional gymnastics to keep all of these students engaged and on track. While I’m not going to get into the “shoulds” here (I address some best practices in this post, and I ranted about one specific remote teaching problem in this Facebook live broadcast), what I’d like to do in this post is curate some of the ways teachers have solved the problem of teaching students who are literally all over the place. Visit https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/scattered/ to pick from her list of tips and strategies, shared in the remainder of the article.


The Regional Education Facilitator team knows that educators are working in abnormal circumstances due to the pandemic and we want to know how YOU are doing. Complete the anonymous, Emotional Well-Being Survey and let it all out! Your responses will be helpful in guiding discussion points during the October 27, #NCBTChat, 7-8 pm. Tune in and join in the conversation as the Burroughs Wellcome Fund NC Teacher of the Year, Maureen Stover, the brilliant Regional Teacher of the Year cohort and countless educators from across NC share their stories and coping practices. You do not want to miss it!

Save the Date: BT Twitter Chat
October 27, 2020
7- 8 pm
#NCBTChat

“Almost anything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you.”

Anne Lamott