New UTeach Dallas Alumni
Nikunj Patel
Attended the 2016 UTeach Alumni Conference
Nikunj is a spring 2016 graduate of the UTeach Dallas. He will be teaching mathematics in Carrollton Farmers Branch ISD starting this fall. Nikunj shared some of his thoughts about the 2016 UTeach Alumni Conference and how it can help educators. We are so pleased to have our UTeach Dallas graduates represented at the 2016 conference!

“As a first year teacher, the UTeach Alumni Conference was a great opportunity for me to gain valuable advice and tips from experienced teachers. I was also able to share and discuss ideas about teaching and the different struggles we face in the classroom as teachers. The breakout sessions, which were interactive workshops presented by other UTeach Alum, covered a wide range of topics, and I walked away with valuable ideas and resources to use in my own classroom. Overall, the conference was a very unique and positive experience, and I definitely plan to go again next year.”

Valeria Sainz - UTeach Dallas Graduate Returns to DISD Junior High Alma Mater and Makes a Difference!

Valeria graduated from UT Dallas in fall 2015. She accepted a math teaching position in spring 2016 at her junior high alma mater T.J. Rusk Middle School in Dallas ISD to teach Algebra 1 to 8th grade students. Often coming into a class mid-year can be a challenge for most teachers. The need to quickly make a connection with students as well as supporting students academically can be an overwhelming task. Also, teaching a STAAR tested subject and the requirements it takes to be sure students are ready for the exam can only add to an educator’s stress.

Valeria took on all these challenges with a true commitment for student success. At the end of the year, a very high number of her students passed the Algebra 1 STAAR test due to Valeria’s motivation for all her students’ to be their best! The passion Valeria demonstrated towards being a true educational leader to all students again shows how UTeach Dallas graduates are the BEST!

Valeria Sainz - UTeach Dallas Graduate
Returns to DISD
Junior High Alma Mater and
Makes a Difference!

Valeria Sainz
Valeria Sainz - UTeach Dallas Graduate
Returns to DISD
Junior High Alma Mater and
Makes a Difference!

Valeria graduated from UT Dallas in fall 2015. She accepted a math teaching position in spring 2016 at her junior high alma mater T.J. Rusk Middle School in Dallas ISD to teach Algebra 1 to 8th grade students. Often coming into a class mid-year can be a challenge for most teachers. The need to quickly make a connection with students as well as supporting students academically can be an overwhelming task. Also, teaching a STAAR tested subject and the requirements it takes to be sure students are ready for the exam can only add to an educator’s stress.

Valeria took on all these challenges with a true commitment for student success. At the end of the year, a very high number of her students passed the Algebra 1 STAAR test due to Valeria’s motivation for all her students’ to be their best! The passion Valeria demonstrated towards being a true educational leader to all students again shows how UTeach Dallas graduates are the BEST!
### UTeach Dallas Induction Workshop Calendar 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| August 6: TRC | Blastoff: Classroom Management Strategies  
|            | Afternoon: Round Robin Technology Sessions                                       |
| October 1: TRC | Making Sense of Student Work by WestEd.org                                       |
| November 5: TRC | Science Manipulatives by Katie Donaldson, MAT, UTeach Dallas Master Teacher  
|            | Math Manipulatives by Bill Gammons, MAT, UTeach Dallas Master Teacher           |
| December 3  | Differentiated Instruction Strategies                                           |
| January 7   | Blastoff II: Blastoff: Classroom Management Strategies                          |
| February 4: TRC | Cooperative Learning (with TRC)                                                   |
| March       | No workshop                                                                     |
| April 1: TRC | ELPs, by Katie Donaldson MAT, UTeach Dallas Master Teacher (with TRC)           |
| May 6       | End of Year: Share-A-Thon                                                        |

---

**Wishing All Our UTeach Dallas Alumni**

**a Great Start of the 2016-2017 School Year!!**

---

It would be great to have pictures of our alumni at their schools for the next newsletter! Also, any fun facts, motivating comments or information about what exciting things you are doing would also be greatly appreciated!!! Remember...Each of you represent what makes UTeach Dallas Great!