

Supplemental Online Curriculum Saves Teacher Time



Keaau High School

SCHOOL TYPE:

High School

COURSE TITLES:

- Health: Today and Tomorrow
- Health Services Core
- Health and Nutrition

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Tanya Montgomery is a health science teacher with the Health Services Career Pathway program at Keaau High School in Keaau, Hawaii.

Montgomery teaches three classes. Health: Today and Tomorrow is for 10th grade students and is a graduation requirement. Health Services Core is part of Year One in Career Pathway and is for 9th through 12th grades. And Health and Nutrition is part of Year Two in Career Pathway and is for 10th through 12th grades.

Blended Learning Approach

Montgomery uses online curriculum resource, HealthCenter21 as part of her courses. She likes HealthCenter21 because of the many units to choose from. She can personalize course either by topic or career pathway or interest, etc. This helps her minimize interference or duplication of units despite having such a large number of students.

Specifically, Montgomery uses HealthCenter21 curriculum by creating a course for each class. The courses each have a menu of modules to choose from. She allows students to choose which modules they want to complete. Montgomery and her students go to the Computer Lab or Library twice per month to access the curriculum. Students are encouraged to finish up at home. And speaking of which, students appreciate the option to use the program at home very much according to Montgomery.

A Great Supplement

In true blended learning method, Montgomery explains, "HealthCenter21 curriculum supplements use of a textbook,

discussions, current events, college presentations and documentaries in the classroom."

In regards to the curriculum itself, Montgomery explains that "most units have both narrative and visual components. Many units have content specific handouts, worksheets and/or forms. The handouts, worksheets, and/or forms are easy for students to read, understand and complete for submission to me."

"I would strongly recommend this curriculum to other teachers," says

Montgomery.

Saves Time for Teachers

And from the teacher perspective, she shares, "Resetting quizzes is fast and easy--students appreciate having three tries [for quizzes]. Accessing student grades and progress is fast and easy--students appreciate being able to see instant results. Adding, deleting and archiving students/ classes is fast and easy."

"I would strongly recommend this curriculum to other teachers," says Montgomery. And she's not kidding. When asked if there was anything she didn't like about HealthCenter21, her response was, "I chose to pay for this curriculum out of pocket so that I would have complete control over how to use it. Using CTE funds means lots of reports. I would rather use my energy in direct service to my students."



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