Science Teacher Interview

1. Please tell us a little bit about yourself and what attracted you to the Science position at Happy Valley High School?
2. Describe the extent of your experiences with teaching chemistry and facilitating lab experiments. Discuss a particular success and an unexpected challenge
3. How do you implement technology into your teaching? What types of technology resources are you familiar with? What types of technology resources would you like to have in your classroom?
4. The Happy Valley High School STE department has worked diligently over the past few years to increase collaboration and create common assessments for students. Explain how you view collaboration within a department, as well as professional learning communities, which are interdisciplinary. What are some advantages to collaboration? What are some pitfalls associated with collaboration?
5. Whether it is a teacher’s first year or their 30th, good planning leads to a good lesson. With that said, even the most experienced teachers have moments were a lesson is well planned, all the technology is working fine, the students are rested and energized, yet 5 minutes in it is clear that the lesson is going poorly. Please describe a lesson or activity that you lead that “crashed and burned.”
   1. What happened?
   2. How did you fix it at the moment ?
   3. What did you learn from it?
6. How familiar are you with the Common Core, Next Generation Science Standards, and the new Advanced Placement Chemistry frameworks?
7. While we always like to say that we love all kids, in reality there will be times that establishing relationships with some students is easier than with other students. Please describe:
   1. the characteristics, or behaviors of a student that you connect with easily and why love students that do HW and want to learn
   2. the characteristics, or behaviors of a student that you do not connect with easily, why, and what do you do to establish that relationship over time
8. With the high frequency of student-athletes, we periodically have student who are diagnosed with concussions. Imagine that one of your students has missed a week or so of school and returns with a doctor’s note saying that she can be in school but cannot do any school work for at least the next 3 weeks. What would you do? How would you support this student?
9. What will you do to convince your students that they all have the capability to achieve at high level (adopting the growth mindset: that abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work) rather than accepting the idea that “science/chemistry is something they have never been good at,” that the are not smart enough (fixed mindset?)
10. Happy Valley High School is has embraced inquiry in their science projects. We have many students travel to regional and state science and engineering fairs. What is your experience with incorporating inquiry into your teaching? What are your feelings in regards to an inquiry-based independent project that is a few weeks in duration