



## Upper Middle Grades

### Anthony Martin, BSCS, MS

#### Mission of Our Class - Upper Middle

- Develop a strong emphasis on identifying and using the innate strengths of these students to minimize and overcome their weaknesses.
- These students' brains dramatically change and their academic progression must continuously change with them in terms of the level and complexity of demands placed on them.
- Emphasize the accurate recognition and understanding of academic difficulties and find different successful ways to manage them.

Anthony is the Lead Teacher of the upper level middle grade students. Sometimes in helping adolescents overcome their weaknesses, we neglect to detect and cultivate their strengths.

Yet, in an adult world, what counts most is the strength of an individual's strengths. Every kid has strengths! They simply await discovery. This is what Anthony is especially good at doing. Because of their critical importance and enormous potential for redeeming adolescents, Anthony makes strength delineation and management a part of every educational plan for each of his students.

Their affinities—areas of knowledge toward which a student feels a strong attachment—are also vital. Anthony seeks to help each student's affinities evolve into domains of expertise. He helps each one to be an expert at something because he knows that their affinities will not come forth and grow automatically. Instead, he knows his main job is to help them find and exploit their assets. Anthony has a gift for fostering experiential learning in

his classroom and also strives to help the parents become close partners in educating their child.

Anthony graduated from University of Maryland with a B.S. in Computer and Information Systems Science and a Masters in Computer Information Systems Management from Bellevue University. He is retired from the United States Air Force where he worked in various positions in intelligence systems requiring a top secret security clearance such as the NATO Air Defense Systems in Belgium. He also worked with the European air traffic control systems management and later at the Pentagon in Washington, DC.

Anthony also has a broad teaching background having taught in the Putnam and Overton county school systems. He holds Tennessee Teacher Licensure for secondary education.

He and his wife Lisa live in Baxter where their son is a senior at Upperman High School.

