



POSITIVE PERSPECTIVE

...and I have to pack up my room every year, for what???

Over the course of my teaching career my parents would come from Jacksonville, FL to Atlanta, GA before the school year began to help me get my room "together". My mom a former teacher totally understands the process, but my father helped for several years without complaint, but in 2016, he asked, "Why do you put all of this up every year and then take it down, to then put it back up?" I tried to offer a really great reason because I wanted him to continue to help, but honestly there is no really great reason. We are sometimes told... "they are going to paint the walls"; but the walls never get painted. I have even heard, "summer school is going to be in your room," but wouldn't it be nice to have a little something on the walls during summer school. Nevertheless, this conundrum and habitual misuse of time is something that all teachers deal with all over the country. However something happened to me this summer that spurned this Positive Perspective series and changed my mind from a negative to a positive about the process.

The Positive Perspective

I recently decided to really clean up and organize my apartment. It took forever and I self-diagnosed myself as a hoarder, but it made me realize. If I, myself, me, teacher extraordinaire did not clean up and pack up at the end of the school year, then unpack and organize two-months later at the beginning of the school year, there would be years and years and years of STUFF that would overtake the room and then the students would have nowhere to sit. So it makes perfect sense now, packing to unpack and taking down to set back up is NOT a waste of time, it is just a really time-consuming way to help us stay organized.