A Day in the Life of a Brooke High School Teacher

7:30 AM Morning Arrival
When Ali arrives to school, she takes a few minutes to respond to important emails. She also chats with the other science teachers about their lessons for the day before heading into the auditorium for Community Meeting. At 7:45, students starting arriving into the auditorium and Ali checks in with students in her advisory about their weekend and what books they are reading.

8:00 AM Community Meeting
Each day, Brooke High students start the day together in the auditorium for Community Meeting. Today, they are kicking off a Speaker Series and a BHS student is interviewing one of the architects who designed the new high school building. The architect shares insights about his career, his successes and failures, and gives advice to the students. Before heading to first period, another student makes an announcement about the cross country meet later that day.

8:16 AM Office Hours and Electives
During this time, Ali meets with students individually or in small groups to conference on various skills and concepts. This is an opportunity for students to ask questions and get extra support from their teachers. When they are not getting extra support, students are in elective classes which include improv, theater, video production, step team, and many other options.

9:00 AM Prep Time
During her first prep period, Ali grades assignments from the previous day, enters grades into an online gradebook, and reviews her lesson plans. She may also use this time to meet with her principal for an observation debrief on a prior lesson. They discuss what is going well in Ali’s classroom and what she should work on.

9:58 AM Prep Time
During her second prep period, Ali and the other teachers bounce ideas off each other for an upcoming unit. She also uses this time to observe some of her advisees in Spanish so she has a clear sense of how they are doing in all of their classes.

10:56AM - 3:09PM Freshman Biology
From 10:56AM - 3:09PM, Ali teaches four sections of freshman biology. At Brooke High, students spend science class conducting experiments, creating models, and engaging in discussions. Students are often asked to design their own experiments to either test a hypothesis or prove a theory, and they write formal lab reports to show a deep understanding of what they are doing.

3:13 PM Afternoon Advisory
At 3:13, Ali’s advisory students enter her classroom. They grab a snack and check in about how everyone’s day is going before Ali starts pulling kids for conferences. During this time, the rest of the group reads independently while Ali meets with students one-on-one to get to know them and to check in about grades, behavior, and life in general.
3:45 PM Dismissal and After-School Activities
At 3:45, Ali says goodbye to her advisory students as they head to after-school activities like play rehearsal and sports practice. This year, Ali is coaching the swim team, and her colleagues are leading sports like fencing and volleyball. Before heading to swim practice, Ali responds to a few emails and cleans up her classroom, ready to come back and tackle another great day tomorrow!

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