



Source: Pinterest

Ayla Morris / Editor

One of the high school's newest staff member, Ryan Hinman, is teaching his way into school.

What is special about Hinman is the connections he is able to create with students. Many students feel as if Hinman is making a difference as a teacher, which is showing to be Hinman's goal.

Hinman began teaching at Stow just last year. He got into teaching because of an old teacher who taught him during high school. This teacher helped him throughout high school and was even his theatre director.

Since she was the theatre director, Hinman did every play with her. This teacher also taught him for English, so Hinman decided to follow in her footsteps, becoming a teacher in the same subject.

One thing that really stands out about Hinman is his age. Hinman is one of the younger teachers at Stow, yet this does not bother him at all--the difference in experience does.

"It's intimidating. It's not my age, but it is just how many years of experience

[other teachers] have, and I look up to them," Hinman

said.

Hinman hopes to get much more experience with this job and looks forward to the years to come. He is excited for the years ahead because teaching means so much to him.

"Teaching to me is doing your best everyday to positively impact the students, whether it's educationally, sociably or helping them through a tough social situation. Our goal should always be the betterment of the students," Hinman said.

As a young teacher, one may think that he is able to connect with students easier; however, Hinman does not believe it is his age that connects him to students.

"I do have a really good connection with most of my students, but I do not think it's because of my age. I think I will connect with them through all ages, and age is not the reason we connect," Hinman said.

Not only does Hinman love making a difference in the lives of students here, but he loves teaching here at the high school.

"Stow is the best opportunity I've ever been given. The support from the administration, support from my peers and will to work from the students helps me feel really good at Stow," Hinman said.

Hinman believes he is one of the most grateful people when it comes to his job. He is thankful for his students and peers, and it shows. He is the perfect fit for an English teacher, for he has very strong opinions on the subject.

"I've always been a huge advocate for poetry, and I was an actor for most of my life, so I've learned to love any form of English whether written expression--even grammar excites me," Hinman said.

Not only is Hinman fitting in perfectly as an English teacher, but also among his peers. He says his peers have been nothing but helpful during this experience. Any area he has ever needed help in, they have been there for him, and he is grateful.



Source: Stohion/Ayla Morris

Hinman is pictured lecturing a topic in his English class, hoping to connect with his students. Hinman is grateful for the opportunities he has been given through his job and is passionate about what he teaches.

With becoming a teacher in the last two years, all of Hinman's students are Generation Z, and Hinman has no problem with interacting among said students.

"I consider most of my students to fall into that category and all of my students have been terrific throughout the past two and a half years. Gen Z itself has similar virtuals and standards has millennials do, and I am one," Hinman said.

As of now, Hinman is thankful for the opportunities he has been given from this job and feels everything is working out perfectly. Hinman is sure to continue to build bonds with his students through out his many years of teaching.

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● **College Attended:** ●  
● **Kent State** ●  
● **Age: 28** ●  
● **Subject: English** ●  
● **Years Teaching: 2** ●  
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## STOW ALUMNI WITNESSES

Amanda Ostrowski / Editor

After graduating from Stow with the class of '04, Kevin Peterson has returned to his alma mater as a forensic science and biology teacher here at the high school.

Peterson was in many activities when he was in high school, such as playing football and running track all four years.

A few classes were offered when Peterson was in high school which are not available today. There is one specifically that Peterson remembers.

"We were offered a metal manufacturing class in high school. It's one class that I took that I remember liking a lot," Peterson said.

This was one of many classes that he enjoyed taking while he was in high school. He also had a favorite teacher, Mr. Shanholtzer, who still works in the Stow district. He and Peterson still have a good relationship today.

"He works at Kimpton [Middle School] now, but was at the high school when I was here and was my track coach," Peterson said.

There are plenty of different things that have changed when Peterson returned to Stow, from teachers retiring, to teachers being moved and even technology.

Peterson believes technology and cell phones have changed schools in general: very few kids had a phone when he was in high school, and computers were only available in a few rooms. Nowadays, it is the complete opposite.

"Students now rely on these devices for communication and access to resources. It is almost hard to remember what high school was like for me because I'm used to how kids are today," Peterson said.

As a young teacher, he feels he relates to kids more because he listens to the same music, still plays video games and is still involved with sports in the building. He also believes he has a laid back personality which makes him more approachable by his students.

Now that he teaches, there are only a few teachers left he had, so he cannot relate to having

some teachers, but he can relate to taking certain classes and understanding just how hard they are. He also states the awkward transition of his former teachers becoming his co-workers.

"It was a little weird for the first few months. The interaction with teachers I had in high school changed to professional and friendly relation-



Source: Stohion/Heaven Plaines

Peterson is shown helping one of his students in class. After returning to Stow as a teacher, Peterson has seen the changes made in classrooms as a result of technology and new teachers.

## GENERATIONAL CHANGES

ships which felt strange," Peterson said.

With dealing with the strangeness of meeting his teachers on a personal level, he also jokes about being able to go into rooms he was not allowed to go into as a student.

When Peterson first went to college at The Ohio State University, he did not think that he wanted to be a teacher; however, that has certainly changed since he has been teaching for seven years.

"I knew I wanted to have a science focus when I first went to college and planned on being a physical therapist," Peterson said.

While Peterson was completing his bachelor's degree, he coached middle school football and really loved it. That is when he decided to go back to school and get his masters in education.

This also worked out because he realized physical therapy was not for him, and it did not work out.

As a young Stow Alumni, Peterson has certainly seen the shifts made in the school from a new wave of Generation Z students, but feels he can still relate his students.

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● **College Attended:** ●  
● **Ohio State** ●  
● **Age: 34** ●  
● **Subject: Science** ●  
● **Years Teaching: 7** ●  
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