



## Alyna Mannerberg Math and Computer Science Teacher



*I teach students of all ages about math, coding, and computer safety, and how to combine all three to become a well-rounded person who can think critically.*

### **How long have you been a math and computer science teacher?**

I've been a teacher and a tutor for over 10 years, and I've been teaching Computer Science and Math for 5 years.

### **Where do you currently work?**

I currently work at Jefferson Township Middle School and Jefferson Township High School, which are both public schools in Oak Ridge, NJ, and Code Ninjas, which is a center to teach kids coding through Game Design.

### **How do you spend most of your time at work?**

- (1) I engage with students while instructing and providing new information.
- (2) I write lesson plans and develop activities that promote fun and engaged learning.
- (3) I make sure every lesson has activities that support learning at each student's own pace.

#### **ALEYNA'S FUN FACTS**

*I love all of Old Dominion's songs and every movie with Adam Sandler.*

### **Why did you choose this career?**

I didn't realize I wanted to be a teacher until my history teacher told my dad that I would make a great teacher. After that conversation, I thought back to the years I helped my grandma at the daycare center where she worked. I also thought about a few of my teachers who made school a fun and interesting learning opportunity.

### **What did you do to prepare for this career?**

To become a teacher, you need a bachelor's degree. Since every college is different, it's important to research their education programs. I went to college for my Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. Then I went to another college to get a Post-Baccalaureate teaching certificate. During this time, I had to complete one semester (half of a school year) of Student Teaching to gain knowledge, understanding, and hands-on teaching experience.

### **What do you enjoy most about your job?**

I thrive in the classroom. Having conversations, both on topic and off, can be very helpful for a student's growth and development, as well as their knowledge of the subject. These conversations build bonds that make teaching one of the most rewarding professions.

### **What do you find most challenging about your job?**

Differentiating lessons to fit every student can be the most difficult. Finding a way to structure classroom activities when each student is unique can be very challenging.

### **What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is interested in your profession?**

My advice is to try as many different subjects in school as you can. You never know what subject you will be passionate about teaching. You may even be passionate about multiple subjects. There are very many subjects you can teach, so explore anything and everything that may interest you.



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