Patrice Brown East Bay High School, Hillsborough County 2021 NIE Teacher of the Year Honorable Mention

Patrice teaches statistics at East Bay High School in Hillsborough County.

Patrice was chosen as a 2021 NIE Teacher of the Year Honorable Mention for using the Times on an ongoing basis as a primary source in her statistics classes.

Each week, Patrice chooses an article or editorial from the Times for her students to read. Students must summarize the article or editorial, determine if the information is statistically sound and hypothesize about how readers might respond. They also must discuss whether that week's piece is factual or opinion. Many times, her students go home and research the topic more thoroughly, leading to further discussions as a class.

Patrice's students tell her that they now look at studies differently. When they hear someone say, "15 percent of our readers" or "65 percent of American voters," they now look to read the details behind the experiment with specific statistical questions in mind instead of just taking the word of the person reporting the data.