

Note to Nerds
March 22nd 2019

Pimento Cheese Sandwich

One of the nicest blessings is to wake up in the mornings to the smell of coffee brewing, beginning the routines that become the roots which blossom into the day.

One of those routines is fixing breakfast and lunch for my wife and myself. (*Don't let Cheri know but I actually relish it.*) This morning I was happily fixing myself a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. My favorite is a generous spread of peanut butter on each slice of bread with a nice pocket of blackberry jam in the middle. MMM!

I asked Cheri if she would like one. She replied, "Don't we still have some pimento cheese?" I thought, "I love pimento cheese on a sandwich!" As if splashed by a bit of cold water I responded, "Yes, I think so!" and proceeded to find the tub of pimento cheese behind the dill pickles on middle shelf of the frig. I make the prettiest little sandwich for her lunch. *Grandmother Antoine would be proud!*

We go through these PC* phases where we buy pimento cheese and eat it like it's going out of style! The tub will eventually migrate towards the back of the refrigerator and we'll forget about it. *So ... needless to say, you know what we have for lunch today.*

When I started as director here at the Math Collaborative, I had a list of objectives that I wanted to focus on to make the Math Collaborative shine like the jewel that it is. At first, it was a handwritten paper that resided in my daily journal. It soon became a document that I revisited every Friday, without fail, to see that I was focused and on track. Soon that document was obscured by the busyness that is so important in the moment.

I knew the plan was there, but it became lost... Until I pulled it up on Wednesday. The last update was sometime in the middle of January - **essentially the last time** that I really looked at the document. *Google is so good about reminding you when you last opened a silly document!*

The cold water of reality hit me during the past week. As I rolled into the end of March and looked to the beginning of April, the focus for me had been lost. I wasn't exactly sure why.

I revisited the plan.

I studied it.

I was even blessed to go over it with a very dear mentor.

Now I feel renewed. More importantly, the focus has returned. I realize **joyfully** that I have a lot of important work to do ... **We** have a lot of important work to do!

How often do we become focused on the peanut butter and jelly sandwich of the day and lose sight of that pimento cheese?

Here's hoping that your weekend is filled with all sorts of delightful sandwiches and more than a touch of rest.

Peter

*Pimento Cheese