

Shane Pinnell

https://youtu.be/Q_jm6k_ALUs

Hi, my name is Shane Pinnell and I'm a Solutions Architect for a company called ConvergeOne. I'd like to spend a little bit of time today answering some questions about careers in computers.

Well, the best part of my job is when I get to help schools solve really hard problems so that students and teachers have safe, reliable, and high quality access to the world's information via the internet, as well as providing students and teachers the information technology resources that they need to grow and learn.

Well, I worked in the IT department for schools in a variety of roles for a little over 15 years. During that time I grew and learned many new things by always being curious and having a willingness to learn. The most important step for me though, was realizing that while I needed to be an expert in all things computer related, the most important part of my job was matching that expertise with the needs and demands of the classroom. Sometimes what was best for the classroom wasn't necessarily the best thing from a technical perspective. I had to learn through conversations and relationship building and some trial and error that working in collaboration on solutions that met the needs of teachers and students was sometimes more important than finding the perfect or most elegant technical solution. Sometimes a compromise was needed.

I didn't really take the traditional route to my current job. I spent some time in college. Then I joined the military. Then I worked for a water company. It took me a while to find something that I was really good at and that I really enjoy. One thing that helped me find my way was by desire to always learn new things, no matter what role I was in. So I think my biggest challenge was just finding the career that worked best for me. It was quite a journey.

My biggest piece of advice would be just to get started now. One of the best things about computer science in particular, is that there's nothing stopping you from getting started. There are so many online resources, tutorials, and free education available to get started today and be on your way.

Thank you. .

Reviewed - 5/27/22 - mel