



## Kristen Dyksterhouse

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kristen Dyksterhouse, and I would like to be considered for any secondary mathematics and/or English teacher positions that are currently available in your district. As a recent graduate of Grand Valley State University, I have a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, and I am certified to teach 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics and English.

Throughout the past year, during my field experiences at both Caledonia High School and Crossroads Middle School, I was actively involved in each student's educational development. I collaborated with staff on advancing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning model, blending progressive pedagogy with modern tools and resources, and I built relationships with learners to ensure the lessons coincided with their interests and met their needs. Additionally, I aligned each lesson to the school's curriculum and the Common Core National Standards, and I used best practices by implementing project-based learning in a *flipped* classroom. Also, as a way to support students, I practiced a balanced literacy approach where-- through reading, writing, and speaking-- learners were able to consolidate their understanding and make real-world and mathematical connections.

In addition to my field experiences, I just finished up the school year working at Belding Middle School as a long-term 6th grade math and English/language arts substitute teacher. Further, I also worked as a Title I Math Interventionist for Northview Public Schools during the 2012 spring semester. During this time I helped students remediate their deficits in mathematics, using data collected through formative and summative assessments to track growth and drive instruction. Along with this, I recently created, piloted, and revised six project-based activities for children and families to engage in, two are published by the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics and four are published by Grand Valley State University as part of a project called, Math in the Libraries. I presented these activities at Muskegon's Hackley Public Library, at King Elementary in Muskegon Heights, and at Math in Action 2012, an annual conference for teachers of mathematics held at GVSU.

Attached you will find my resume, teaching certificate, transcript, letters of recommendation, and a few photos. Please take a moment to review these and let me know if I can provide any additional information. I believe you will find I am uniquely experienced with multiple perspectives on how students think and learn, and that I have extensive knowledge on how to accommodate students' development to ensure they are college and/or career ready. Thank you for your time and consideration; I am available immediately and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

(SIGNATURE)

Kristen Dyksterhouse