

Terese Marie Dennison

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Personal Statement

Accomplished secondary teacher with over twenty years of experience of motivating, advising, mentoring, and inspiring young adults in rigorous, challenging, and creative educational environments.

Adept at establishing positive rapport with students and young adults. A history of exceptional management skills. Successful in meeting the challenges of racially and socially diverse student populations.

Director of multiple educational leadership positions. Skilled in effective oral and written communication with the ability to interact successfully with colleagues, administrators, and students. Interested in being part of a collaborative, inclusive, creative, and progressive community.

Employment History

Professional Private Instructor of English, Literature, and Composition

Tucson, Arizona 2019 - present

- Developed individually tailored lesson plans and strategies to improve student self sufficiency and academic goals
- Created collaborative and inclusive learning environment
- Designed and implemented original inquiry-based curriculum with a focus on critical and creative thinking
- Use of a variety of instructional strategies to provide equity and excellence to students of varied levels and social backgrounds
- Monitored, assessed, and provided detailed feedback on student performance
- Enhanced lessons through integration of innovative educational technology

History Department Chair

Green Fields School Tucson, Arizona 2011 - 2019

- Prepared and proposed budget requests and established expenditure priorities while ensuring the continuation and enhancement of department
- Led department meetings and assisted with strategies for student achievement
- Wrote and compiled supporting evidence for Advanced Ed academic accreditation board
- Evaluated peers for professional review purposes, including plans for improvement
- Created projection and curriculum maps for the History and English departments
- Maintained department records in accordance with school procedures

Green Fields School Tucson, Arizona 2005 – 2019

Literature and World History Classroom Teacher

- Worked closely with and advised students in leadership roles, course selections, and college admissions
- Served as mentor for newly hired teachers
- Developed original inquiry-based curriculum with a focus on fundamentals and critical and creative thinking
- Guided students in carrying out leadership tasks such as school wide communications, Senior Masterwork projects, Issue and Career Day events, and class fundraising
- Developed and executed annual week-long study programs focusing on a creative and hands on approach to learning
- Collaborated with department heads and administrators to develop and update educational programs and curriculum strategies
- Use of a variety of instructional strategies to provide equity and excellence to students of all ability levels and social backgrounds

Tucson Hebrew Academy Tucson, Arizona 2004 - 2005

Literature & History Classroom Teacher

- Served as lead instructor for literature and history classes
- Developed original inquiry-based curriculum with a focus on fundamentals and critical and creative thinking
- Responsibility for student progress and worked toward achieving course goals
- Participated in all staff and department meetings and maintained accurate records

Armstrong Academy Tucson, Arizona 1999 - 2003

Literature & History Classroom Teacher

- Developed original inquiry-based curriculum with a focus on fundamentals and critical and creative thinking
- Served as mentor for newly hired teachers
- Applied a flexible approach to learning while adhering to curriculum guidelines
- Developed, executed, and accompanied students on learning based travel and exploration trips

Education

M.A., Secondary Education University of Arizona

Language, Reading & Culture - Thesis Topic: Adolescent Multiple Literacies

B.S., Education

University of Arizona

Key Achievements

- Facilitated expansion of educational leadership programs with a focus on shared leadership, confident communication, vision, and a focus on the importance of building community
- Developed and led year-long multi-media inquiry projects for young adults that sought to move students beyond an insular global perspective and deepen their sense of the world
- Facilitated Senior Masterwork projects focused on a particular passion students wished to explore
- Implemented and led annual Issue Day program: a student driven social, political, cultural, environmental or humanistic concern of topical and practical interest
- Instrumental in organizing and leading multiple fundraising and community events
- Active involvement in, and commitment to, various community events
- Developed and executed annual study programs focusing on a creative and hands on approach to learning