**Me’ira Pitkapaasi**

**484-364-6851, mpitkapaasi@philasd.org**

**Special Education: LSS/ LS/ AS/ MDS**

March 2017

Dear Hiring Committee,

I am seeking a Special Education position for the 2017-2018 school year.  I am dual certified in Special Education and Math Education.  Throughout my 30 years of teaching, I have found my greatest success and joy when working with children in a Resource Room or self-contained classroom environment, with students in need of LSS, LS, AS, or MDS support. I am interested in being considered for any available position you may have in these areas.

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I am currently working with fourteen 12-15 year old students in an Intensive Learning Support self-contained environment.  I am primarily responsible for their math education, though I advise and assist in all other academic areas as well.  Developing lessons each day that both bring the group together as a whole, and fulfill their individual goals has been met with great success.  I am also their case manager, familiar with and regularly utilizing Easy IEP.

I have been able to use my data analysis training to keep track of the data-driven instruction needed for each of my young women and men.  As an example, our two 75 minute math classes utilize a specially designed instruction series of 5 textbooks and workbooks on various levels.  I keep careful track of each student’s progress, adjusting small group learning based on individual skill mastery, evaluated both formally and informally.  I use both AIMSweb progress monitoring and teacher-designed tests to document each child’s accomplishments in this difficult subject.  My students’ self confidence soars as they take each baby step on this new journey.

As a result I am searching for a position where my skills and successes can be best utilized.  I appreciate your consideration for the opportunity to teach in any self-contained or Resource Room position you may have available in Life Skills Support, Intensive Learning Support, Autistic Support, or Multiple Disabilities Support.

Sincerely,

Me’ira Pitkapaasi

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**Special Education: LSS/ LS/ AS/ MDS**

**EXPERIENCE**

**2016 - present Intensive Learning Support Teacher**

**Philadelphia School District**

* 8th gr Intensive Learning Support, all subjects, primary responsibility- math
* Self-Contained, Resource Room, Case Manager
* Severe SLD, mild ID, mild ES, OHI- medically fragile, ADD/H
* Caseload progressing a full year’s learning each one to two months

**2015 - 2016 Learning Support Mathematics Professor**

**Salem County College, New Jersey**

* Adult Resource Room: MDS, SLD, AS, OHI- PS, ADD/H
* 3rd grade level through Calculus; College Placement, and TEAS- Test of Essential Academic Skills
* Caseload progressing two years per semester and/or from D/Fs to A/Bs

**2013 - 2015 Learning Support Mathematics Instructor**

**Upper Darby- Delaware County Community College, PA**

* Pre-K through Algebra II; GED, TEAS, Praxis, College Placement
* Pre-calculus Professor: Non-traditional students & students with IEPs
* Caseload moved from 4th-9th grade levels to A/B/Cs in pre-calculus material
* Calculus Professor: Inclusion environment

**2006 - 2009 Founder & Troop Leader, Girls with Disabilities & Families     Girl Scouts of America, PA**

* Differentiated Group Projects: Earn badges, run cookie booths, parent support
* K-10th gr: ID, AS, MDS, SLD, OHI- medically fragile, ADD/H; non-disabled siblings

**2008 - 2008 Volunteer ELL/LS Assistant Teacher, Reading High School, PA**

* Spanish-speaking Resource Room; Learn basic Spanish, teach basic English
* Communicate Math & Science concepts to immigrant teenagers with SLD

**2000 - Present Teacher & Community Leader**

**Congregation Beth Israel, Media, PA**

* After-school & Weekend, Heterogeneous classrooms, 1st-8th gr & adults
* SLD, AS, mild ES, MDS, OHI: Medically Fragile, ADD/H
* Hebrew, History, Liturgy, Song-leading, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Community action

**1990 - 2015 Medical Foster Parent**

* Parent, advocate, temporarily home-school, 3-17 year old children with disabilities

**1986 - present Special Education Hebrew & Math Tutor- Self-employed**

* SLD, AS, MDS, GS, OHI: ADD/H, non-traditional adult students
* Math: 1st - 12th grade & adults; Praxis, TEAS, College Placement
* Hebrew: Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation, 6th-8th gr & adults

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**DEGREES**

In Progress M.S. Special Education Saint Joseph’s University

May 2015 M.A. Math Education West Chester University

May 2006 B.S., Summa Cum Laude     Math, Physics, Astronomy

West Chester University

May 2002 A.S., High Honors Math & the Physical Sciences

Delaware County Community College

**TEACHER CERTIFICATIONS**

May 2016 Special Education PDE/PSD

May 2015 Mathematics Education West Chester University

**REFERENCES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sheree Ellison  Consulting Teacher | sdharrisellison@philasd.org  215-400-4280 | Office of Teaching & Learning  Philadelphia School District |
| Lauren Murphy-Sands  Mentor Teacher | lmurphy@philasd.org  215-400-6555 | Office of Teaching & Learning  Philadelphia School District |
| Dr. Eli Brookes  Math/Physics Lead | eraijya@gmail.com  856-299-2100 | Academic Support Center  Salem Community College |
| Rabbi Linda Potemken  Clergy | ravltp@bethisraelmedia.org  610-566-4645 | Congregation Beth Israel  Media, PA |
| Brian Byrd  Professor | brian.l.byrd@gmail.com  913-284-4065 | Upper Darby campus  Delaware County Community College |
| Jennifer Dougherty  Guidance Counselor | [jdougherty@philasd.org](mailto:jdougherty@philasd.org)  215-276-5252 | Wagner Middle School  Philadelphia School District |
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