## William DeMorris

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am interested in the posted teaching position for the 2023-24 school year and am excited for the opportunity to expand my professional experience in your district. I believe that equity and a strong home-school connection belong at the helm of all students' academic experience. Throughout my positions in a variety of school settings and communities, I have learned to adapt to the array of needs of my students and their families to ensure social, emotional and academic success. I currently hold a Bachelor's of Science in Adolescent Education with a concentration in Social Studies from SUNY New Paltz, and a Masters of Science in Education for Teaching Literacy from LIU Hudson. My New York State certifications include Secondary Social Studies 7-12, and Literacy B-6 and 5-12.

I am especially interested in this opportunity because it would allow me to work with a diverse population of learners in an environment that encourages student growth through small group instruction, differentiation, and targeted academic interventions. My recent experience in the Mount Vernon District afforded me increased professional support, and educated me about the benefits and opportunities of collaborative problem solving with my colleagues. I pride myself on being a go-to for questions on educational technology and educational practices for my coworkers. The opportunity to work with these students was an incredibly rewarding experience, as I was able to see first hand the growth that students can achieve through early literacy intervention.

Prior to my employment in the Mount Vernon District, I held a position as a 1:1 Teacher's Assistant for a fifth grade student with Sensory Integration Disorder and subsequent Emotional Behavioral Disorder during the 2016-2017 school year. This position challenged me to be creative with my instruction and provide necessary modifications and behavioral interventions, while collaborating with the general and special education teachers, and school social worker. I believe all students can achieve success in the classroom if given the proper supports and interventions.

Throughout all my teaching experience, I continue in developing my classroom management style. I have found that modeling classroom expectations along with implementing positive behavioral interventions are effective methods that meet the needs of all students.

Currently, I am seeking a position in a district that promotes growth and opportunity for both its teachers and students. Teaching students with diverse backgrounds, strengths, and needs has reinforced my philosophy that all students can be successful in the classroom and beyond if given the necessary supports and encouragement. I am confident that I will make a positive contribution to the instructional team and community as a whole. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you further regarding this position.

Sincerely, William V. DeMorris IV