

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I have known Bryan Sanders since 2005 when he joined the English Department at New Roads School. I was teaching English then, and I will never forget the day he walked onto campus one morning in July to organize his new room. (In truth, he walked onto campus several times making trip after trip to his car to retrieve yet another box of books.)

I was in a meeting with the high school director and asked, “How is he going to fit all those books into his classroom?”

The director responded, “Bryan is a career teacher. He has a passion! It is his calling”

Yes, indeed. Bryan has a passion and a calling. He also has a brain. Over the years I have had countless conversations about teaching, students, and pedagogy, about curriculum, philosophy, and life, about schools, social justice, literature, and art, and about Seinfeld. Bryan is usually creating and innovating; he is always questioning.

Deeply committed to the pursuits of academic life, Bryan is also committed to finding new ways to engage students so that they willingly and enthusiastically engage in the life of the mind. To Bryan, nothing except his family is more important than encouraging students to find joy in reading and writing. Bryan believes in the larger democratic vision of education; his professional efforts are always directed toward that goal.

Overall, Bryan Sanders is a highly intellectual and deeply caring high school teacher with nearly 20 years of experience in the classroom. I have no doubt that his work in your doctoral program will be meaningful and productive towards our shared democratic goals. He has a passion and a calling and a brain. Your program will be the richer for his participation.

Sincerely,
Nancy Fasules
Director of Admissions
New Roads School