

Dear Hiring Committee,

Thank you for your consideration and this opportunity. I have a lot of writing on this application, but I wanted to make sure to highlight some key points about myself as a teacher.

I am a dedicated teacher looking to find another challenge and a place to call home. A school really is a home for me. I dig in deep to the work of educating our youth and I truly enjoy what I do. I make the shared classroom space a warm and inviting one. I decorate and enhance the room with student work, both old and new, as well as experiment with a variety of designs and arrangements to entice and encourage new interactions. I also frequently bring in artifacts from my youth as well as parts of my various art collections or ideas for art collections. The room is vibrant and inviting. I live there with my students so many hours that I see it as a direct extension of both my personality and the personas that we explore when in the room together.

I have spent many years serving in other roles, from Student Council Advisor to Web Design Teacher, while always an English Teacher. I am always the guy sitting among the students and interacting with them instead of only serving as a bouncer or a hall monitor. My approach is to always see them as people and monitor anything that goes awry from the inside circles of familiarity and kindness and care. I don't show up for a paycheck. I love being a teacher and a role model and a creative intellectual with students. They know the difference when their teachers see them as souls and humans, and I could never 'do this job' any other way.

I advocate for students and I teach them to advocate for themselves. I believe that they have rights and that they need to be taught how to best articulate their situations so that they can work towards solving any injustices that they perceive. The latest news stories are always alive in our discussions and compositions, but sometimes students need more local help with their stations in life. A persuasive letter writing campaign to the Principal about a new campus rule would certainly have a place in our classroom.

I do not work towards test scores but towards intellectual growth. I value risk taking in the classroom and thoughtful theory building. I prefer hypothesizing and testing ideas over settling for a 'right answer' that would easily be found in a textbook, anthology, or website. I am excited by new ideas that the students develop. Their fresh eyes are a source of joy and wonder that I nurture and encourage.

Teaching is my dream job because I care deeply about making a positive impact on humanity. I see direct results when I work with the youth, and that keeps me fulfilled. Thank you for reading this along with my other attached compositions. I look forward to hearing from you should you consider me an appropriate fit for your school.

Thank you,

Bryan Sanders

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