

Suzanne Karwowski

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Career Summary:

A dedicated and motivated individual offering over 17 years of secondary educational experience working with students from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

Involved with School Improvement and updating the secondary English curriculum to reflect current common core standards and best practices while integrating a passion for literature and writing. Demonstrated enthusiasm and rigor in the content area to facilitate critical thinking and creativity.

Known for being a caring, and consistent teacher focused on establishing positive rapport with staff and students, engaging students using best practices and differentiated instruction, and maintaining high levels of expectations. Identifying students' strengths and encouraging individual growth both academically and personally while promoting a positive and safe learning environment.

Professional Strengths:

Highly Motivated
Student Centered

Resourceful
Organized

Excellent Communicator
Effective Classroom Management

Professional Experience

High School English Teacher

Lake Shore Public Schools, St. Clair Shores, Michigan

January 2003 to present

Served as head of the English department at North Lake High School in the Lake Shore Public School district, a 1:1 district which is home to over 3400 K-12 students attending three elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, and one alternative high school

- **Major Accomplishment:** Created and implemented English curriculum aligned to Michigan Merit Curriculum accompanied by book selection and supplemental material design for 10 courses including ELA 10, 11, and 12 equivalents. Produced an in-house, student centered yearbook for 12 years.
- **Technology and Odysseyware:** Piloted a 1:1 program for our school and am a leader in the use of technology in our building. Trained in Schoology, and Blackboard. Completed 2 year blending and technology program through the Macomb ISD. Revised and managed Odysseyware curriculum in all subjects for the school. Participated in changes to increase student success in online courses. Worked with Odysseyware, Edgenuity, Novanet and Plato.
- **Project Based Learning Specialist:** Completed training on Project Based Learning in partner with our school district and CBD. Designed and helped implement a Cross Curricular English/Government course. Helped to design and implement the curriculum for a mini mester school wide project.
- **Green School Status:** Coordinated efforts for increasing ecological awareness within the student body and achieving Green School Status for the past seven years. Co-Chair of the Environmental Club.

English Teacher
June 2006
Utica Learning Academy, Sterling Heights, MI

January 2002 to

Served as an English Teacher for 150 "At-Risk" students in Utica's evening high school completion program.

- **Major Accomplishment:** Created high interest curriculum with real world application for multiple classes taught in 105 minute blocks. Developed and produced the school newspaper.

Related Experiences

Academic Advisor and Learning Lab Teacher
Utica Adult Education, Sterling Heights, MI

September 2011 to March 2013

Served as the Academic Advisor for the Adult Basic Education, GED and High School Completion program scheduling class, assessing transcripts and preparing adult learners for graduation. Assessing student performance on the state required testing to create a plan for improving skills in English and Math.

- **Major Accomplishments:** Created curriculum for Adult Basic Education courses for science, math, English and social studies and aligning current practices with state guidelines.
- **English Language Learners:** Gained exposure to best practices in working with ELL students
- **Record Keeping:** Effectively maintained CA-60s for 160 students. Worked with the administrative side of PowerSchool.
- **Administration:** Assisted Supervisor in developing strategies to increase community awareness of program which lead to an increase in students attending. Worked with the supervisor to handle student discipline and emotional issues.

Academic Advisor
Utica Learning Academy, Sterling Heights, MI

September 2006 to June 2011

Served as the Academic Advisor for 100 "At-Risk" students participating in the evening high school completion program. Responsible for scheduling, transcript assessment, and monitoring students during passing time.

- **Administration:** Worked with the supervisor to handle student discipline and emotional issues.

Student Teaching
Utica Community Schools, Shelby Township, MI

August 2001 to December 2001

Served as a student English teacher at Eisenhower High School. Worked with 10th and 11th grade students from different cultures. Responsibilities included taking attendance in SASI, maintaining accurate records and grades, creating lessons with differentiated instruction and implementing formative and summative assessment of students.

- **Major Accomplishment:** Assistant director of the fall school play. Held auditions, rehearsals and ticket sales.

Education

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Master of Arts in Educational Technology

G.P.A. 4.0

Graduation date: December 2020

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Additional classes towards certification, 2005-2009

G.P.A. 4.0

Focused on Elementary Education, including 9 credits in science teaching methods

Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

Bachelor of Arts in Education, December 2001

G.P.A. 3.27

Major: English and American Literature and Language - Teaching

Minor: Theatre Arts and Communication - Teaching and Psychology - Teaching

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

General Education, December 1998

Macomb Community College, Warren, MI

General Education, 1998

Fraser High School, Fraser, MI

High School Diploma, June 1996

Certification

Professional Teaching Certificate

Grades 6-12 English (BA), Speech (BD), Educational Technology (NP) and Psychology (CE)

State of Michigan, Department of Education
