

Vanessa L. Capaldo, M.Ed.

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Secondary English Teacher

Vibrant, experienced, student-focused educator with the ability to positively connect with today's student. Skilled in teaching critical and analytical thinking, providing original and innovative ways of learning, while upholding flexibility and accommodation so that every student will realize success. Solid work ethic with exceptional interpersonal and communication talents to foster and maintain meaningful relationships within the school community.

Areas of Competency:

- Expository Writing
- Narrative Writing
- Professional Development
- Authentic Literacy
- Student-Centered Learning
- Social Justice Issues
- Educational Technology
- Gifted Students
- Critical & Analytical Thinking
- Parent & Student Relationships
- Culturally Relevant Pedagogy
- ESL Instruction
- Close Reading/Text Complexity
- Reading/Writing Workshop
- Data-Driven Instruction
- AVID Instructional Strategies

Professional Teaching Experience

NICK KERR MIDDLE SCHOOL
BURLESON, TX
08/2013 – PRESENT
Teacher (6th Grade Pre-AP ELA
7th & 8th Grade ELA)

WEDGWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
FORT WORTH, TX
08/2007 – 6/2013
Teacher (7th Grade ELA &
Reading/8th Grade Reading)



Education & Credentials:

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, ARLINGTON, TX
Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction with
Literacy Emphasis (2012)
Bachelor of Arts in English (2000)

TARLETON UNIVERSITY, STEPHENVILLE, TX
TMATE-FWISD Teacher Certification Program (2008)

English Language Arts & Reading, Grades 4-8 & Grades 8-12;
ESL Supplemental, Grades 4-12
Gifted and Talented Supplemental, Grades 4 – 12

Career Highlights

Cultivated a positive and focused learning environment through the use of a solid classroom management plan. Provided students with clear and consistent direction and follow-through, reinforcing school guidelines and policies, and establishing a rapport with students.

Employed real world scenarios to reinforce subject matter and relevance to everyday activities, allowing students to capture educational relevance and use in their daily lives.

Integrated technology within the classroom to reinforce concepts being taught; utilized Google applications with students for research as well as reading and writing.

Participated in a teacher quality grant with the University of North Texas for the past two years for both narrative and expository writing.

Presented as a Teacher Consultant, North Star of Texas Writing Project, local site of the National Writing Project, a network of teachers, administrators, and professors who focus on the teaching of reading and writing in the North Texas community.

Provided several presentations to pre-service teachers on narrative writing and teaching students about social justice issues and current events.

Participated in the 2015 Memorial Library Summer Seminar in New York City, a 12-day seminar which focuses on teaching about the Holocaust and other social injustices to middle and high school students.

Participated in, and presented to, the Holocaust Educators Network, which centers on teaching about the Holocaust and other social justice issues.

Career Development Initiatives:

- UNT Teacher Quality Grant – Expository Writing (2014-15) and Narrative Writing (2015-2016)
TAIR Conference (2015 presenter)
- Holocaust Educators Network (2014 participant, 2015 presenter)
- Memorial Library Summer Seminar (Summer of 2015)
- TCTELA Literacy Conference, 2012, 2015, 2016
- APSI Conference – TCU (2012) and UTA (2014)
- Project Based Learning 101 (2014)
- North Star of Texas Writing Project Summer Seminar, University of North Texas (2011)
- Project Accelerate, ESL Graduate Work for Secondary Teachers, Texas Women's University (2010)
- Laying the Foundation Gifted and Talented Training (2010, 2012)
- AVID Summer Institute, (2009)
- Texas Adolescent Literacy Academy (2009)
- Model Schools, Orlando, FL (2008)