

**Marsha R. Westfall**

marsha@marshawestfall.com

Science Education Portfolio: <http://www.umd.umich.edu/sep/students/mwestfal/>

---

**OBJECTIVE** To obtain a teaching position at the elementary or middle school level.

**EDUCATION** Currently pursuing a B.A. in Elementary Education at the University of Michigan Dearborn. Graduation date: May 2, 2010. Certification (following graduation): Elementary Education. Overall G.P.A.: 3.79. G.P.A.in Education: 4.0. Passed MTTC for both Social Studies and ELA (October 2009). Pi Lamda Theta International Honor Society and Professional Association in Education (Gamma Iota chapter, inducted May 2007). University Honors 2004 (only full time semester). Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from Henry Ford Community College December, 1996. High School Diploma, Fairlane Christian School, May 1993.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Professional Education Services Group—Substitute Teacher** (February 2009-present) 6307 84th Street Southeast, Caledonia, MI 49316-9735. (616) 891-0509.

**University of Michigan Dearborn School of Education—Science Library and Lab Assistant** (work study: Jan 2009-April 2009). Responsible for organizing and maintaining resources in the Science Education Library and two laboratories. Supervisor: Dr. Susan Everett, (313) 593-5133.

**National Heritage Academies Metro Campus—lunch worker** (2003). Prepared lunches and supervised students during recess.

**Garden City Public Schools—on call teacher aide/secretary** (1995-1996)

**Student Teaching—3<sup>rd</sup> grade** (January 4, 2010-April 23, 2010). Randall Elementary School in Taylor, MI 48180. (313) 295-5812.

- Created and implemented a literature-based Social Studies unit emphasizing the ways in which individual action in history affected life in Michigan today.
- Developed and taught “compare and contrast” and “folktale” writing units.
- Designed interactive bulletin boards to enhance literacy.
- A Teacher’s Edition was used for the *Everyday Math* program; however, the cooperating teacher and I constituted math groups and used a “center-like” approach in order to gain a more targeted differentiation.
- Constructed a month-long integrated Language Arts and Social Studies unit using Michigan author Holling C. Holling’s *Paddle-to-the-sea*.
- Facilitated guided reading groups of multiple levels.

**Practicums** (105 hours). Observed classrooms from 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade. Created lessons and taught in one-on-one, small group, and whole group situations. These lessons included GLCE in ELA (text-to-text connections, parts of a nonfiction text), science inquiry (animal needs and classification), and math (exponential decay).

### **VOLUNTEER WORK**

- Yearbook Coordinator for Madison Elementary in Westland, MI. (2008-2009).
- Junior Achievement (February 2007) Westside Multicultural Academy in Detroit, teaching 4-5 social studies lessons to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.
- Wayne County Family Center (1997-present). Crafts with kids, organized and delivered Christmas gifts for families transitioning from the shelter, and helped to prepare and work an Easter celebration for families currently living there.
- PTA/PTO (2001-present). Helped in classrooms, curriculum nights, carnivals, and supervised students during lunch and field trips.

### **PROFESSIONAL GOALS**

- I will be dedicated to my students in a way that gives each one of them the tools and encouragement they need to find personal success. There is a saying in education that I truly believe in: Fair does not mean that everyone gets the same thing, it means that everyone gets what they need. I know that differentiation and consistency will be key in my effectiveness as a teacher.
- I plan to attend the Summer Literacy Conference at Hillsdale College in June of 2010 and to apply to the University of Michigan Dearborn's Master of Arts Degree in Education program to obtain a Reading Specialist K-12 endorsement in the next year or two.

### **REFERENCES**

**Dr. Susan Everett**, Coordinator of Science Education at the University of Michigan Dearborn (313) 593-5133, email: everetts@umd.umich.edu.  
School of Education 19000 Hubbard Drive Dearborn MI, 48126-2638.

**Mrs. Lisa Prunty**, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade cooperating teacher, (313) 295-5812.  
8699 Robert, Taylor, MI 48180.

**Mrs. Pamela Parys**, Director/Instructor Sunshine & Rainbows Preschool,  
(734) 419-2112. William D. Ford Career-Technical Center 36455 Marquette,  
Westland, MI. 48185.